



**Thousands take to the streets to stand up to racism**

**>>pages 10&11**

# Socialist Worker

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## ● DUNCAN SMITH QUITTS ● TORIES IN MELTDOWN

# GET THEM OUT



### GREECE

**Refugees rounded up into camps after new EU deal**

REFUGEES ARRIVING in Greece are being rounded up into detention centres under a deal backed by Tory prime minister David Cameron.

Any refugee arriving in Greece will now be deported to Turkey.

Some refugees have been handcuffed and none are treated as human beings.

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### BELGIUM



**More repression, racism and war won't stop terror**

THE HORRIFIC killings in Brussels will lead to more calls for repression, and more attacks on Muslims.

But such measures ignore the roots of such tragic events in the destruction of societies in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Libya and elsewhere.

And they will do nothing to halt them.

**>>Page 6**

### TORIES

**Cameron's crisis grows after IDS resigns post**

WELFARE SECRETARY Iain Duncan Smith's resignation last week has torn apart the government.

Different factions are openly denouncing their opponents. The divisions are so deep they could lead to the end of this brutal government.

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## FIGHT TO STOP ALL CUTS



## THE THINGS THEY SAY

### 'Bad things will happen'

Donald Trump makes an election promise

### 'I am delighted that the chancellor has finally realised the dangers of Coke'

Shadow Leader of the House of Commons Chris Bryant

### 'It is in danger of drifting in a direction that divides society rather than unites it'

Fomer Tory minister  
Iain Duncan Smith

### 'He appeared to spend much of the last few months plotting over Europe and against the leadership'

Ros Altmann Tory pensions minister

### 'If I never go back into government again, I will not cry about that'

Fomer Tory minister  
Iain Duncan Smith

### 'I am puzzled and disappointed that you have chosen to resign'

David Cameron responds with clarity

### 'You've voted for #BoatyMcBoatface, but are you registered to #VoteMcVoteFace'

The electoral commission responds to the name chosen for a new Royal Research Ship

# George Osborne's bungling budget is an expensive joke

**THE COST** of a George Osborne budget joke has soared.

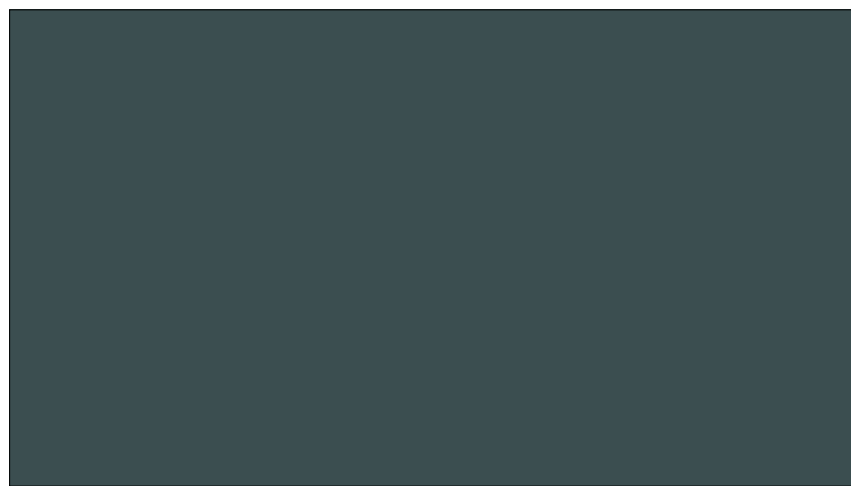
Last year he invested £1million in a commemoration of the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt. This seemed to be for no other reason than allowing him to make a terrible joke at former Labour leader Ed Miliband's expense about a "band of brothers".

And his £40 million investment in the so-called "internet of things" paved the way for another Miliband gag.

It was something about having remote control of your two kitchens—every bit as bad as the first. That was £41 million for two jokes.

But for this year's Budget, the chancellor really went big. He used Crossrail 2 as the peg for a joke at Jeremy Corbyn's expense, describing it as "good for those who live in north London and are heading south". Crossrail 2 will cost £27 billion—the most expensive Osborne gag yet.

Corbyn got the biggest laugh for his sarcastic observation that only 368 of the promised 15,000 new homes at Ebbsfleet



OSBORNE DREAMS up new ways to kick the poor

in Kent have been built. But they have been trailed in 30 government announcements, which works out at 12 homes per press release.

"We need a vast increase in press releases," Corbyn urged.

The housing minister, Brandon Lewis, announced a target of one million houses to be built in England by 2020. Which on Troublemakers's calculator means it will take more than 83,000 press releases to fulfil that pledge.

**TROUBLEMAKER** WAS surprised to hear that Prince Andrew rammed his Range Rover through the closed gates of Windsor Great Park. He caused thousands of pounds of damage because he couldn't be bothered doing a one-mile detour to his Royal Lodge home. More surprising still to hear the police won't investigate a formal complaint into it. Gawd bless em.



Prince Andrew

**DETECTIVES** investigating concerns over the handling of £1 million at the Police Federation have arrested four people, including three serving officers, on suspicion of fraud. The federation, which represents most of the 125,000 police officers in England and Wales, called in Surrey police.

## Make the spy cops probe transparent

**THE FATHER** of murdered teenager Stephen Lawrence has demanded that Lord Justice Pitchford must conduct an "open and transparent inquiry" into undercover police.

Pitchford opened a two-day hearing on Tuesday to decide how much of the public inquiry will be held in secret.

Neville Lawrence said, "For over 20 years I have seen the Metropolitan Police fail time and again to be open and honest on matters concerning myself and my family."

"It appears that attempts are being made to persuade the inquiry to restrict public access to information."



Protest at the Inquiry

"Such restrictions would make it impossible to get answers for victims."

As well as the Lawrence family, the secret cops spied on a string of justice campaigns for murder victims or those who died following police contact.

They spied on activists and campaigners.

## Cop investigating abuse arrested

Metropolitan Police detective Chris Maitland appeared in court last week to face 14 charges relating to child sex offences.

They include sexual touching of a girl aged under 13 and making indecent images of a child. Maitland works in the force's Sexual Offences, Exploitation and Child Abuse Command.

The alleged offences took place between 2005 and 2015.

He was originally arrested last November on suspicion of possession and distribution of indecent



images of children.

He was later arrested and accused of committing offences against an eight year old girl.

Maitland is due to appear at Southwark Crown Court on 15 April.

He is currently suspended from duty.

## Tories' blue sky thinking

**DAVID CAMERON** used to be fond of saying, "Let sunshine win the day."

His closest policy wonk took this idea to extremes, according to David Laws' memoir of being in coalition.

Steve Hilton, the PM's former chief strategist, once called a policy pow-wow and announced that, as well as the deficit, he wanted to cut bad weather.

"Why can't we fly planes over the Atlantic," Hilton mused, "to drop chemicals on the clouds and force them to break up, and get rid of their rain before they get to our shores?"



## Sun distraction of the week

●Sun hacks are stuck waiting for Rupert Murdoch to decide what attitude to take to EU referendum.

●So they went for a story that claimed migrants cost the NHS a fortune. They said treating foreign nationals who didn't pay "made up part of" about just over 0.005 percent of NHS spending for last year

●Angus Dalglish, the doctor quoted in the article, was a Ukip candidate in the last general election

## Javid quiet on banker bonus

**BUSINESS** Secretary Sajid Javid repeatedly refused to reveal if he took part in a tax avoidance scheme.

He declined to answer when asked about his links to the plan while a £3million-a-year director at Deutsche Bank.

Javid dodged the issue six times on Channel 4 News.

He admitted knowing about the scheme but he insisted he never benefited.

Deutsche Bank paid £91 million to 300 staff, awarding them shares in a firm based in the Cayman Islands.

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# Refugees rounded up into camps by EU's brutal deal

by DAVE SEWELL

**REFUGEES ARRIVING in Greece are being rounded up into detention centres under a new deal backed by Tory David Cameron.**

Some have been handcuffed, some segregated into “national groups”. None are treated as human beings.

The European Union (EU) is bribing the viciously repressive Turkish regime to act as its border guard.

The deal agreed at a summit in Brussels last Friday includes a “one in, one out” mechanism slammed by big NGOs and even the United Nations.

It means that any refugee arriving in Greece can now be deported to Turkey.

In return for each deportee, the EU must later allow a Syrian refugee currently in Turkey to be legally resettled in Europe.

The hopes of any Syrian in Turkey being brought to Europe depend on another refugee risking their life at sea. If they survive, they will be permanently barred.

## Detention

Hundreds more refugees arrived on the island of Lesbos within days of the deal.

Cops took them straight from the beach to the Moria reception centre, which is rapidly converting into a detention camp.

It follows days of hurried evacuations of refugees already on Lesbos to make room for mass detention.

Activists on Lesbos told Socialist Worker these refugees are not told where they are going or what their rights are.

Teacher Sofia Georgocosta said, “Most locals have been helping the refugees. They have become friends, and now people are in tears at seeing them taken away.”

“We see the Nato warships every



PAKISTANI REFUGEES protest in Moria, Greece, last week

day off the coast—it's become clear to everyone that they were never here to help, only to push refugees back.”

Chilling eyewitness reports say that refugees are separated by nationality on the ferries.

Those not recognised as refugees—such as Pakistanis and people from north Africa—are transported

in handcuffs.

The rest face an uncertain future, driven into overcrowded and often isolated camps.

They have the right to come and go—for now. But they are stuck in Greece.

European states have blocked off the main northern border, and the

EU's resettlement scheme is barely moving. Bashar, who is fleeing from the Taliban in Afghanistan, is in the Elliniko detention camp in Athens' old airport.

He told Socialist Worker, “The camp is too small for all the people. The conditions are dirty, and there are many sick people including children and pregnant women.”

“We have big problems. But more people keep coming from the islands, or back from the border where they have not been able to cross.”

The EU's austerity has left the Greek state too threadbare to implement the deal alone.

Mass deportations are expected to begin only after other EU countries send in thousands of their own cops and border agents to reinforce Greece.

## Warships

Drownings are frequent and the deal could drive refugees to take more dangerous routes such as from Libya to Italy. David Cameron is already pushing to get warships deployed there.

Only granting safe passage can stop the horror at sea. Bashar said, “You have to look at the problem at its root.”

“No one goes into a boat which is a fragile balloon of air, no one pushes their family onto the dangerous sea, unless they have to.”

“It's not right to close the border in front of them. Now we're all waiting to see what will happen—we just hope they will open the border.”

Refugees are protesting daily in Greece and blocking the railway across the border. Pakistanis protested at Moria last week and activists in Lesbos are planning a bigger response.

Anti-racists everywhere must stand with this resistance—or the machinery of repression will lead to even more horrors.

## Belgians fear more repression after attack

by NICK CLARK

BOMBINGS IN the Belgian capital Brussels had left a reported 31 people dead as Socialist Worker went to press.

Reports say two explosions at Brussels' Zaventem airport caused by a suicide bombing killed 11 people and injured a further 81.

A further explosion at a metro station in Brussels city centre followed shortly after. The metro operator confirmed that 20 people had been killed and 55 injured.

Activist Farida Aarras from Brussels told Socialist Worker, “We are all shocked by this horror and sad for the victims who did nothing



Farida Aarras

to deserve that. But we still think that this happened because our leaders never do what they should. Violence only leads to more violence.”

Belgian police were reported to be carrying out raids in Brussels' suburbs.

Farida added, “We now risk even harsher repression—supposedly to avoid further dangers.”

“But we already have soldiers and police on every street corner. We're living in very tough times. Islamophobic acts will only increase, and it was already going so badly.”

It was not clear who carried out the attacks as Socialist Worker went to press. But many were speculating that it was Isis or another terrorist group.

The bombings follow the arrest of Salah Abdeslam by Belgian police on Friday of last week. He is believed to have been involved in last November's Paris attacks.

Police shot and arrested Abdeslam along with one other in a shoot-out in Belgium's Molenbeek district. Turn to page 6. Repression won't stop terror attacks

## Marxism 2016 Ideas to change the world

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## Glasgow immigration raid

ACTIVISTS IN Glasgow blockaded a Border and Immigration Agency site on Monday in an attempt to stop the deportation of an LGBT+ activist and her son.

Cops arrested Beverley Vaanda Kanjii in a dawn raid earlier that day. She says she was assaulted during the arrest.

Her neighbours were shocked.

One asked, “Why are they taking that lovely lady and her son from upstairs away?”

## Violence

Beverley fled physical violence and forced marriage in Namibia as well as persecution for her sexuality.

The Home Office claims she

will be safe if she simply moves to another part of Namibia.

Over 30 cops with dogs broke up the protesters' roadblock, pulling apart hands that were superglued together.

## Persecution

Beverley was to be deported on commercial flights on Thursday of this week, the same day as Strathclyde university activist Lord Apetsi (see page 19).

A chartered jet full of deportees was also set to leave Gatwick airport for Nigeria on Tuesday night.

Supporters are encouraged to call the airline KLM to complain on 0207 660 0293





# Cameron's crisis grows after IDS quits post

Iain Duncan Smith's resignation has exposed deep divisions within the Tory party, writes **Charlie Kimber**

**THE TORIES** face divisions so deep that they could lead to the end of this brutal government.

Former welfare secretary Iain Duncan Smith's resignation on Friday of last week threw a hand grenade into the centre of the cabinet room.

Tory MPs from different factions then spent days openly denouncing their opponents inside the party. After chancellor George Osborne's "omnishambles" budget of 2012, the Tories resolved never to make such dangerous mistakes again. They have now done much worse, with some Tory MPs dubbing this an "Ozzyshambles" budget (see box, right).

The Daily Mail newspaper's headline on Monday of this week was "Civil war engulfs Tories".

The Sun newspaper's Trevor Kavanagh wrote, "David Cameron is fighting for his life. George Osborne is already dead meat."

Osborne was previously hot favourite to be the next Conservative leader, and the central economic figure in the bosses' campaign to stay in the EU.

Now he is a shrunken and damaged figure, vulnerable to his internal enemies.

Duncan Smith said he was resigning because the budget cut benefits to disabled people as the rich were pampered with tax cuts.

## Budget

Yet his resignation letter began, "I'm incredibly proud of the welfare reforms that the government has delivered over the past five years." He did not object to the latest cuts in the pre-budget cabinet. And his department issued news of the cuts a week before the budget.

Less than a year after their election "triumph" the Tories are tearing themselves apart.

All the strikers and campaigners who defied the Tories for the last six years played a part in the government's present distress.

The resistance has not been so widespread or so sustained that it

## BACK STORY

**The Tory party has been plunged into a deepening political crisis**

● Welfare minister Iain Duncan Smith resigned last week

● His departure was mainly driven by Tory splits over Europe

● These are rooted in ruling class uncertainty about how to deal with a stagnant economy

● Now the mainstream media is predicting that chancellor George Osborne is "dead meat"

● The Tories are in disarray—and there's a chance to get them out

could block and break Cameron.

Yet it made the Tories' task more difficult.

Large sections of people have always seen their austerity as class-driven inhumanity.

But the central reason for Duncan Smith's resignation was splits over the European Union (EU).

These splits are rooted in the stagnant British economy and ruling class uncertainty about how best to make profit.

Europe makes every grudge into a screaming match for the Tories.

Duncan Smith is for leaving the EU. He is in a small but outspoken minority in the cabinet, and knew he would probably be purged after the referendum.

The side that loses the EU referendum on 23 June will be bitter and resentful towards the victor's side.

The Tories have been rowing over Europe for more than 25 years, and they are not going to stop now.

Nor is the economy going to blossom so that everyone just forgets about the austerity assaults.

The Tory splits will not heal easily.

## On other pages...

Stunning victory for college lecturers in Scotland >> **Page 6**

**IAIN DUNCAN** Smith's resignation has opened up a new crisis for the Tories

# Disability campaigners celebrate and say, 'Now let's get all the rest'

by **DAVE SEWELL**

**POOR AND disabled people who spent years on the receiving end of Iain Duncan Smith's attacks celebrated his departure.**

**They poured scorn on his claims to be acting for social justice.**

**Ellen Clifford is a leading Disabled People Against Cuts (Dpac) activist.**

**She told Socialist Worker, "The resignation letter of this vile individual that feigns a sudden pang of conscience is as hollow as the man's heart.**

**"It has however done serious damage to the Tory party.**

**"Duncan Smith described the budget as showing that we aren't 'all in it together' in an interview with Andrew Marr.**

**"He presented himself as a champion of the low-paid. It was surreal."**

## Mansion

**Paul, who claims Employment Support Allowance due to long term ill health, went with Socialist Worker to Duncan Smith's mansion in 2013.**

**This week he said, "I don't think this is about his conscience. I don't think he has a conscience.**

**sanctions in the country, so we were incensed that he would go there as if to congratulate them."**

**Sanctions cut off out of work benefit claimants' only source of income, leaving them destitute. Duncan Smith expanded their use dramatically.**

## Disgusted

**Paul said, "It disgusted me when Duncan Smith claimed that people thank him for sanctioning them—in other words for punishing them.**

**"It takes a perverse ideology to think like that."**

**Around 30 activists from Dpac—whose protests have been a constant thorn in his side—popped champagne in Parliament Square last Saturday.**

**It followed a protest that disrupted George Osborne's photo op the previous day.**

**Dpac was set to hold its first protest targeting Duncan Smith's successor Stephen Crabb outside prime minister's questions on Wednesday.**

**Ellen said, "With Duncan Smith gone Jeremy Hunt, Nicky Morgan, Osborne and even David Cameron are looking vulnerable.**

**"We got IDS, now we'll get the rest."**

## Campaigning against the Tories

"The man has no morals at all."

Duncan Smith wasn't in when Paul went to call at his stately home. But Paul did catch up with him earlier this year when he went to visit Peckham job centre in south London.

"That was me you could see shouting at him on the news—I got a photo of him hiding behind the Daily Mail.

"We were protesting about benefit sanctions. Peckham has the highest rate of benefit

# Good polls for Corbyn are a blow to Labour right wingers

by **NICK CLARK**

A POLL last week put the Labour Party ahead of the Tories for the first time since Jeremy Corbyn was elected leader.

The YouGov poll released the day after Osborne's budget was announced, put Labour on 34 percent—ahead of the Tories on 33 percent.

It followed an ICM poll on Monday of last week that put Labour and the Tories level on 36 percent.

The two polls alone cannot be taken as evidence that Labour's popularity is growing.

But their release was a blow to Labour right wingers who claim that the party is unelectable with Corbyn as leader.

How successful Corbyn is depends on whether he offers

a clear and strong alternative to the Tories' austerity.

So it was a mistake for neither Corbyn or shadow chancellor John McDonnell to mention Iain Duncan Smith's resignation in parliament on Monday of this week.

The real test for

Corbyn's leadership will come in May with elections for several councils, the London Mayor, Welsh Assembly and the Scottish parliament.

In Scotland Labour is battling the Tories for second place behind the Scottish National Party.

# Stephen Crabb—a new bigot enters the cabinet

**IAIN Duncan Smith's replacement as welfare cutter is Stephen Crabb.**

Crabb is connected to a fundamentalist Christian group that opposes LGBT+ equality and promotes the idea that lesbians and gays can be "cured".

The Christian Action Research and Education charity (Care) once co-sponsored a

Care was condemned in 2012 and a number of other MPS cut their links with it.

But Crabb—who started his career as a Care intern—did not.

Crabb has also voted against equal marriage.

And he has aligned himself with the charity's intended aim of tightening the laws on abortion.

conference that looked at "therapeutic approaches to same-sex attraction".

# Osborne crashes and burns

**GEORGE Osborne's budget crashed even before it was presented to the House of Commons.**

New welfare secretary Stephen Crabb was humiliatingly forced to say that proposed cuts to Personal Independence Payments (PIP) would be withdrawn.

Yet the £4 billion cuts appeared in the budget documents as hard facts.

The Tories now

say they don't intend to plug the gap in the budget until the Autumn Statement—in seven months time.

## Defeat

The government also suggested two Labour budget amendments—on the tampon tax and a tax on solar panels—for fear of defeat.

Crabb even suggested the six-year assault on welfare spending was at an end and there would

be no more proposals for such cuts.

Although of course the present cuts will remain.

The budget, a central part of the government's formal economic policy, has evaporated in just 48 hours.

Now Osborne has to go—and all the austerity measures with him.

To read Socialist Worker's full budget coverage go to [bit.ly/25hNyNK](http://bit.ly/25hNyNK) and [bit.ly/1Yvuf4M](http://bit.ly/1Yvuf4M)

**Socialist Worker**  
WHAT WE THINK

# THIS IS NO TIME FOR BUSINESS AS USUAL

**THE GOVERNMENT** is extremely weak. But it will survive unless it faces serious resistance—much more serious than it has done so far. Every day it stays means further rounds of assaults on working class people.

So the task is to transform the Tories' splits into the fall of David Cameron and the end of austerity. Here are three immediate chances to begin turning the tide.

On 6 April the junior doctors will begin a 48-hour strike. Every union and every campaign must be on the picket lines with them.

If the junior doctors win it will be a spur to further struggle and to defend the NHS.

## Education

The attack on disabled people was one appalling element of the budget. The war on state education and the forced transfer to academies was another.

This weekend the NUT teachers' union meets at its conference. The NUT must set out a programme of protests, meetings, and strikes to annihilate this aspect of the budget statement too.

Strikes can win. In this issue of

Socialist Worker we report on victories for Scottish lecturers (see page 6) and Grangemouth dock workers (see page 19).

The lecturers won by following a solid strike with plans for indefinite escalation—backed with a political strategy exposing the Scottish National Party's cuts.

The Grangemouth workers won because of unofficial solidarity from tanker drivers. What a contrast to the terrible defeat there in 2013 when union leaders did not inspire a fightback.

And everyone needs to build and join the People's Assembly demonstration in London on Saturday 16 April.

There can be no let-up in the

**Labour must openly back and build support for the junior doctors' strikes**

battle to defeat racism and to show solidarity with refugees and migrants. In the throes of their crisis, the Tories will try to divide and distract us with scapegoating.

The Sun newspaper's front page on Monday wasn't on the Tory splits. Instead it was on tired racist lies about the NHS groaning under the weight of immigration.

## Escalation

We need escalation of the struggle everywhere, against cuts, against racism and Islamophobia, against attacks on wages and conditions and public services.

This should be Jeremy Corbyn's moment. He must call on the Tories to go, and back resistance that can mobilise everyone who hates this government.

The Labour Party must, for example, openly and unequivocally back and build support for the junior doctors' strikes.

This should be the union leaders' moment. But we cannot wait while they decide.

This is not business as usual, it is not politics as usual.

We must pressure the union leaders to seize the time and strain every muscle to build resistance ourselves.

# WHO NEEDS EU? THEY DO

**THE US** president Barack Obama is coming to Britain next month to urge people to vote to remain in the European Union (EU).

The EU is a key part of the US imperialist project. Its rulers are desperate for Britain to remain in the EU rather than weaken it.

After the Second World War, the US pushed for Western Europe's states to cooperate and compete against its rival Russia.

Nato was the military arm, the EU the economic arm. The world

has dramatically changed since then. But US imperialism's overall aims remain the same and the EU is becoming an imperialist player in its own right.

A key part of that strategy today is the proposed TTIP trade deal being negotiated between the US and EU.

Public services—including the NHS—would be open to full privatisation.

The deal would sweep away more barriers to multinational corporations maximising profits at

workers and the planet's expense.

The US urged last week for negotiations to be speeded up ahead of a possible "Brexit" in June.

This US intervention shows that the EU is fundamentally a bosses' club. That's why the bulk of British capitalists support EU membership—and why US imperialism is backing them up.

It's another reason for socialists to argue for a left break—to stop TTIP and to weaken the US, Britain and the EU's rulers.

## The EU—a left case for exit

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ANALYSIS  
NICK CLARK

## Repression won't stop terror attacks

**WITHIN HOURS** of the killings in Brussels, commentators were speculating about whether the bombings were “revenge” for the arrest of Salah Abdeslam.

Abdeslam is said to have been involved in the Paris attacks last November, and linked to Isis.

Whoever is responsible for the horrific bombings, politicians and the media will use them as an excuse to ramp up more racism and Islamophobia.

There will be more attacks on Muslims in Britain, who are already demonised and scapegoated by politicians and the media and hounded by the government's Prevent strategy.

Politicians will point to the Brussels bombings to justify their assaults in Syria and tightening of the border controls that leave refugees to drown.

Such measures will only make further terrible events more likely. The root of these horrors is the devastation inflicted by imperialist war and intervention in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria and other countries.

Wars launched by the leaders of the US, Britain and France have created huge resentment and created the space in which groups such as Isis can grow. These same leaders back the brutal governments that have turned back the tide of Arab revolution—which offered hope.

There is nothing remotely anti-imperialist about the bombings. But the reality is that more repression will mean more attacks. In the wake of the Paris attacks the French government declared a “state of emergency”—that's still in place—banning protests and increasing border controls.

In the first 12 days French cops carried out more than 1,600 raids, mainly in poorer Paris suburbs with higher Muslim populations such as Saint-Denis. Almost 300 people were placed under some form of house arrest.

The French state also took the opportunity to ban large gatherings, protests and demonstrations.

At the time Brussels was placed under lockdown after police traced Belgian-born Abdeslam there.

The army patrolled the streets and police carried out raid after raid.

In Britain many said that Britain's border controls which trapped thousands of refugees in the Calais “jungle” camp were essential to keep terrorists out.

And the Tories, backed by a significant bunch of Labour MPs, launched a drive for war that led to British planes bombing Syria in “solidarity” with France.

Neither the bombing of Syria, the scapegoating of Muslims or the callous treatment of refugees did anything to halt Tuesday's bombings in Brussels.

Everyone who marched last weekend, and all those who opposed the bombing of Syria must now work to ensure that these bombings are not used to increase the tide of racism, Islamophobia and war.

## From Brussels

## ‘These deaths could have been avoided’

**NORDINE SAIDI** of the Brussels Panthers group spoke to Socialist Worker

“I'M WHOLEHEARTEDLY with the wounded and the families of victims. I'm shaken by these terrorist acts which nothing can justify, but unfortunately I am not surprised. Our foreign policy in Libya, Mali, Syria and Iraq, and its effects here—state racism and Islamophobia—cannot be ignored if we want to understand this chaos and escape from it.

“I am enraged by the inhumanity towards deaths that take place ‘elsewhere’. These are deaths in which we are complicit and responsible. Without that double standard, perhaps we could have avoided these deaths at home.

“Some will try and use this tragedy to justify repressive policies against Muslims, refugees, and all those who resist in working class areas. We are in permanent danger, we are under permanent suspicion, we are permanent targets and we are presumed guilty.”



STRIKERS LOBBIED the Scottish parliament on the day of the walkout last week

PICTURE: RICHIE BISSET

# College strikers celebrate a stunning victory in Scotland

by **RAYMIE KIERNAN**

**SCOTTISH FURTHER education college lecturers have scored a stunning victory in their battle for national bargaining and equal pay.**

Workers have yet to vote on a three-year deal. But it would mean that, by April 2019, lecturers in Scotland would be on the same pay scale at every college.

For the lowest paid it means a whopping 33 percent pay rise.

Bosses crumbled after just a single day's strike last Thursday. Up to 5,000 EIS-Fela union members were staging their first national strike in over 20 years.

New College Lanarkshire (NCL) EIS-Fela branch secretary Eileen Imlah said support for the strike was “solid”.

Colleges Scotland, the bosses' organisation, lied about having no money and then rode roughshod over the so-called negotiation process.

### Bargaining

Eileen said, “Negotiations went on for 15 months and the issue of national bargaining has been live since 2011.

“But they imposed a 1 percent pay deal on us that increases pay inequality.”

But workers put the pressure on with an escalating strike strategy that would see them move to striking three

days a week indefinitely.

And focusing the campaign on the Scottish National Party (SNP) government paid dividends (see box).

Bosses at three Glasgow colleges had refused to even sign up to national bargaining. They were the first to cave in.

Then Colleges Scotland conceded pretty much everything demanded by the union on Friday of last week.

Workers will even be paid for the day they were on strike.

Staged payments over the



A picket at West College

next three years will harmonise pay. And there is a commitment to also agree harmonised terms and conditions based on best practice by autumn this year.

The imposed 1 percent pay deal for 2015/2016 was allegedly just an “interim payment” and is to be topped up with an extra £100 for everyone and for 2016/2017 a further £450 rise.

### United

Penny Gower, EIS-Fela branch secretary at Edinburgh College, told Socialist Worker, “This has taught a new layer of young lecturers that united strikes can win.”

Angela McCormick, a rep at NCL, agreed. She said, “Our staff are not near the lowest rate but the pickets were big on Thursday.

“And lecturers from hair-dressing, beauty and make-up courses were the stand out activists during the strike.

“We put further education at the heart of the political debate in Scotland.”

This success will boost workers everywhere who want to fight austerity and defend public services.

It's a resounding victory—and the news of it needs to be spread far and wide.

## Action spooks the SNP

**MORE THAN 350 noisy lecturers lobbied the Scottish parliament on the strike day. They could be heard in the debating chamber—and SNP leaders started to worry.**

College students Roslina Asif and her sister Maria raised the issue with SNP leader Nicola Sturgeon on the same day.

They told Socialist Worker that a rattled Sturgeon, clearly under pressure, claimed she

would “solve this once and for all”.

The SNP was vulnerable over the issue.

Facing the prospect of every non-SNP Holyrood election candidate having a stick to beat them with, and escalating strikes, Sturgeon and co buckled and found a pot of cash.

Strikers exposed the SNP's false claims to be an “anti-austerity” party. That's a key lesson for every trade unionist in Scotland.



Nicola Sturgeon

### On other pages...

Teachers slam Tory academy plan  
>> Page 20



# Junior docs vote to step up action as Hunt digs in

Trade unionists are preparing to join picket lines and protests, reports **Tomáš Tengely-Evans**

**JUNIOR DOCTORS** are stepping up their fight against Tory health secretary **Jeremy Hunt's** imposition of a dangerous new contract.

The British Medical Association (BMA) voted to “move towards escalating industrial action” on Friday of last week.

The decision comes after a successful 48-hour strike on 10 February and ahead of two further planned walkouts on 6 and 26 April.

Niki, a junior doctor in east London, told Socialist Worker, “Many junior doctors wanted to see some form of escalation.

“There’s no point taking action if it’s not effective and this could be a way of moving forward.”

David Cameron will do everything he can not to lose another cabinet minister. Hunt will only back down if he’s defeated—escalating industrial action is crucial to make sure that happens.

The BMA had not confirmed what form the escalation will take, but it has been discussing two options. Niki said, “We could either call a full walkout or more days of action.”

## Withdrawing

A “full walkout” would mean withdrawing “emergency cover” that’s been available during the last strikes. Niki said, “There are a lot of concerns about patient safety, but a full walkout would still be safe with consultants providing cover.”

She added, “Increasing frequency would be useful.”

A week-long walkout with emergency cover would be more hard-hitting than a one day “full walkout”.

Hunt’s imposition has thrown down the gauntlet to the whole union movement. If the Tories get away with it, they will attack other groups of workers.

But the mood is beginning to turn. With attacks on teachers in the budget, there’s the potential for united action.

During the last walkout around 1,500 junior doctors and their

## BACK STORY

**Junior doctors are fighting the imposition of a dangerous new contract**

- Tory health secretary Jeremy Hunt wants to bring in “seven day working”
- He wants to cut unsocial hours payments and financial penalties on bosses who make them work dangerous hours
- But a series of strikes have shown the junior doctors have huge support
- The next strike is on 6 April

supporters marched from east London into the City financial district. And 200 rallied outside University College Hospital in central London.

At Homerton Hospital in Hackney, east London, they held their first junior doctors’ support group meeting to plan solidarity for the next walkout.

Manchester trades council is also setting up local support groups and planning solidarity on the day.

Every town and city should be organising now to have mass support for the pickets on 6 April.

The North West TUC conference last Sunday passed an emergency motion calling for support for local protests and a regional demonstration.

This is a significant step. The TUC should call a national demonstration and Unison and the other health unions should immediately ballot their members for action.

Niki said, “On the east London march there was a lot of appetite for escalating action from other trade unions. There is one problem—that’s the Tory government.

“We need to find ways to work to come out together.”

Junior Doctors—It’s everyone’s fight. Unite the Resistance public meeting, Tuesday 12 April, 7pm, Bloomsbury Baptist Church, 235 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8EP

**A HOSPITAL worker in south London demands fair pay**

## South London hospital workers fight for living wage from privateer bosses

**HOSPITAL WORKERS** at four south London hospitals struck for a £10 an hour living wage on Monday of this week.

The GMB union members are fighting US multinational Aramark for a £10 an hour living wage.

The predominantly women migrant workers from Africa, South America and eastern Europe work across the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust’s four mental health hospitals.

Pickets were out in force at Maudsley Hospital in Lambeth last Monday.

Emily told Socialist Worker, “My bills are more than the money I’m earning, but we have a rich employer and deserve more.

“That’s why we’re out for a pay rise.”

## Raked

Outsourcing giant Aramark raked in profits of £267 million worldwide in 2015.

But it only pays many of its workers £7.48 an hour—more than £2 below the London Living Wage.

Catia, a GMB union rep, said, “I’ve been working here for nine

years and during that time we’ve only had a £1.40 pay rise.

“But we’re not just fighting for £10 an hour—the workforce is split between old and new workers.”

Those who began working after Aramark took over the contract from outsourcer ISS have worse pay and terms and conditions.

As Katarina said, “Our contract is rubbish. You only get sick pay after three days off and it ends after ten days. You don’t get that in your first year. You only get 20 days holiday a year.”

Jane said, “We do the same jobs—why should we be paid

differently?”

Workers also said that the workload has gone up. Katy said, “It’s really difficult—there’s more work but less money.”

Jane added, “You’re expected to work and work and work. I’m by myself now, before there was two of us doing the same amount of work.”

## Struggle

But workers have shown how they can take on the bosses—and their fight is part of a broader struggle against NHS privatisation.

The GMB members had voted by 97 percent to strike on a 51 percent turnout.

As Catia said, “The ballot is quite impressive—it shows that we’re willing to fight.

“If they don’t come up with something reasonable, I wouldn’t say no to us striking again.”

Their picket lines are also the perfect antidote to the racists who seek to divide working class people by scapegoating migrants.

Every trade unionist should build solidarity for their fight.

Some workers names have been changed



Striking on Monday PICTURE: SOCIALIST WORKER



# Students in revolt defy French cops to fight law

A protest movement in France against an employment law is gathering support, reports **Dave Sewell**

**STUDENTS ACROSS France were set to strike and protest for the third time on Thursday in a revolt that continues to grow.**

Some 150,000 students took to the streets last Thursday according to the biggest student union Unef—up from 100,000 the week before.

Many striking workers joined them. Universities and colleges were barricaded. More youths from the working class suburbs joined the demonstration in Paris.

The movement against a proposed new employment law is the biggest challenge the Labour-type government of Francois Hollande has faced.

And the state is pouring fuel on the fire. Police violence against the students has caused outrage. They raided the Sorbonne's Tolbiac campus to stop students holding a general assembly in a building university bosses wanted shut.

Cops used batons and teargas. They smashed furniture—and they hospitalised one young woman with a severe head wound.

At the same time attacks on wages are driving more workers to make common cause with the students.

## Strike

The CGT union has called a standing two-week strike notice in the public sector, allowing members to walk out alongside the students or over their own wages. Other unions are backing a day of action during the students' next strike on Thursday of next week.

Economy minister Emmanuel Macron was cornered by an angry protest of 300 CGT union members when he visited a nuclear power plant last Thursday. Macron was there to argue for smashing the agreements of EDF energy workers.

Workers chanted, "Macron resign!" and yelled, "You want the deaths of workers".

Days later he was on TV saying students are only protesting because they "don't fully understand the world of today".

## BACK STORY

**Students and workers are fighting a planned new law**

● The new law would smash workers' rights, such as collective bargaining

● It will force workers to work longer for less and make it easier for bosses to fire workers

● The prime minister, Manuel Valls, is forcing ministers to push the law through

But students understand all too well the need to resist.

The last coordinated college student strikes in 2013 opposed the deportation of 15 year old student Leonarda Dibrani. Now working as a waitress in Kosovo, she said, "I still hate Hollande—he ruined my life."

Hundreds of delegates from student assemblies all over France came to discuss the next steps in the Paris VIII university in St Denis last Saturday. It is a stronghold of the movement.

Student Jules Rondeau told Socialist Worker on the strike day, "The university has been under occupation. Several departments have been fully shut down with teachers striking.

"We had 800 at the general assembly last Wednesday, and there have also been course assemblies."

Ministers' attempts to water down some proposals have helped placate right wing union leaders. But it's clear to all that the key attacks are upheld.

New Anticapitalist Party spokesperson Olivier Besancenot spoke for many in a TV interview last Thursday. "We'll keep going to the end," he said.

"The only place for this law is in the bin."



**On other pages...**

Health workers fight for a real living wage >>>Page 7

STUDENTS on the streets of Paris last week

## Trump rallies plagued by protests in US

by **CHARLIE KIMBER**

**PROTESTS AGAINST the thuggish Donald Trump have spread following the successful shutdown of one of his rallies in Chicago recently.**

Demonstrators in Arizona used parked vehicles to block the route to a Trump event last Saturday. Traffic backed up for miles.

Trump was later repeatedly interrupted in Tucson by protesters chanting "No more hate" and "Trump the racist."

Trump tried to whip up the crowd by saying, "These are not good people folks, they're not

really protesters."

Protesters tried to rush the doors of a rally in Salt Lake City the night before but were beaten back. In both Tucson and Salt Lake City Trump supporters had to leave the rally by a back exit to avoid protesters.

Also on Saturday hundreds of people demonstrated in Manhattan, New York, against a Trump event.

One of Trump's major themes at the weekend was to denounce Mexican migrants, saying, "So much crime. Drugs pouring through the border."

"We're going to build the wall and we're going to stop it. It's going to end."



Protesters challenge Trump's racism

## PALESTINE

### Arson murder witness attacked

A WITNESS to an arson attack that killed a Palestinian family in a West Bank village last year has had his home firebombed.

Ibrahim Dawabshe and his wife were sleeping when their home was attacked in the early hours of Sunday morning.

He is the only witness to an arson attack that killed

his relatives and neighbours, baby Ali Dawabshe and parents Saad and Reham, last July.

Ibrahim is to testify in the high profile trial of Amiram Ben-Uliel, the far right Israeli settler charged with the murders by the Israeli state. But his account is at odds with the state's version of events.

Israeli security

service Shin Bet allege Ben-Uliel acted alone in the attack, whereas Ibrahim says he saw two attackers on the scene.

Shin Bet claim it was unlikely that last Sunday's fire was started by Israeli settlers. A brick and at least two Molotov cocktails were found near a broken window after the attack.

**Nick Clark**

## More online

● For our coverage of this week's US election results go to [socialistworker.co.uk](http://socialistworker.co.uk)



@socialistworker



Socialist Worker (Britain)



## Riddled with fleas

TOSH MCDONALD, the Aslef union president, dished out a stinging rebuke to Barnsley Labour MPs Dan Jarvis and Michael Dugher as part of a recent talk he gave in Barnsley.

It came at the end of a fortnight in which Dugher publicly condemned Jeremy Corbyn as “quite frankly barmy” for speaking at the Scrap Trident demonstration.

Jarvis had also issued the latest of his policy speeches which are clearly designed to signal a future challenge from him for the Labour leadership.

Tosh beautifully summed up the role that right wing Labour MPs such as Dugher are playing when he said, “Michael, if you lie down with dogs you are going to get fleas!”

Dave Gibson  
Barnsley

## Shame on Archbishop

THE MASS media, the government and unscrupulous politicians are engaged in an unprecedented campaign of vilification and scapegoating of migrants and refugees.

Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury, has intervened to defend racism, comfort bigots and legitimise xenophobia. He should be ashamed. Let Welby stand with the racists and disgrace his faith. Decent people stand with the oppressed and know racism is wrong.

Sasha Simic  
North London

## Millions wasted while services cut—it stinks

FOUR TUBE line upgrades will be five years late and £886 million over budget after “gross mismanagement” by Transport for London (TfL)—a testament to Tory Boris Johnson’s time as London mayor. Ultimately, as head of TfL, it’s his responsibility.

Londoners bearing the brunt of government cuts have seen Johnson’s determination to crush trade unions and fund his vanity projects.



Protesting against zero hour contracts in New Zealand

# New Zealand zero hours victory shows we can win

NEWS THAT the number of zero hours contracts has risen in the last year by over 100,000 to 801,000 shows just what the Tories’ “recovery” really means.

Tory chancellor George Osborne’s budget last week is built on these kinds of shitty jobs that exploit all workers, particularly young workers in the food and hospitality industry.

In Glasgow we’ve been resisting this.

We recently had around 30 young workers at our regular Fast Food Rights group meeting to plan our activities to unionise workplaces in the city.

We also made a banner for the anti-racist protest last Saturday to say refugees are welcome here.

Working with other activists we’ve targeted some of the worst kinds of employers in Glasgow to shame them for the way they are exploiting low pay.

The key for us is to get more of these workers involved in a trade union and argue that it can be a means of fighting back for decent pay.

So it was fantastic to hear the New Zealand parliament unanimously passed a law this month that could see the end of zero hour contracts for New Zealand workers.

This came off the back of an active campaign that should inspire us all.

The new law means that employers must guarantee a

minimum number of hours work each week, and workers can refuse extra hours without repercussions. That’s a real step forward.

A global day of action by fast food workers and unions across the world will coincide with a major “Fight for 15” US-wide fast food workers’ strike on 14 April. We are organising to be part of that.

Major firms like Sports Direct, or the G1 Group here in Glasgow, that use zero hours to boost profits should start worrying about the work we are doing.

It may be small scale right now but as New Zealand shows workers can fight back—and we can win.

Lorna McKinnon  
Glasgow

## It’s time to call out SNP broken pledges

THE Scottish National Party’s (SNP) plan to raise £100 million for schools by tinkering with the regressive council tax will hit the poorest hardest, according to the Scottish parliament’s research group.

It will benefit local authorities in the most affluent areas. It won’t benefit the parts of Scotland where social deprivation and unemployment are high—where schools would most benefit from the cash.



This is on top of an already unfair council tax that benefits the wealthy.

The SNP resists any radical change or scrapping this regressive tax, like they pledged to do.

It refuses to say if the money raised would be redistributed fairly to those

in need. This is just an attempt at tinkering around the edges rather than a break with Westminster austerity.

It will affect disproportionately the poorest and reinforce disadvantage.

The alternative is, clearly, to tax the rich.

With the Holyrood elections in May the SNP needs to be held to account for its list of broken pledges.

Ayesha Saleem  
Edinburgh

Just a thought...

## No is the only way to go

YES, OF course the EU is just a club for big business. Crucially we shall never be able to renationalise any of our privatised industries until we are out of it.

It is nonsense to suggest that because a person shares one policy of Ukip’s then people will automatically think that they share Ukip’s other policies.

Tony Shaw  
Hyde, Cheshire

## Tory budget got me angry

JUST SEEING Georgie’s face makes me want to overthrow the government and inflict pain on them all!

@michellelincoln

ABOUT TIME Eton was turned into an academy  
@urbanmanc

## Splinter the duke’s plan

GROSVENOR Estate, the Duke of Westminster’s property company, wants to redevelop the last remaining timber yard from the early Victorian period still in use today for its intended purpose.

The plan will oust many from their homes to create luxury apartments, demolish 19th century galleries, except the facades, and cost 35 jobs.

All to create three vast showrooms that would only be affordable to multinational companies.

Humphrey Carrasco  
by email

Petition [bit.ly/1RmQWtc](http://bit.ly/1RmQWtc)

## Harold Wilson did bugger all

HAROLD Wilson, Labour party leader in 1963, would have turned 100 years old last week. What was his legacy?

Well his constituency, Knowsley, remains one of the poorest on all sorts of measures. So he did bugger all there.

Andrew Duff  
on Facebook

## Tear the Tory dogs apart

I READ your interview with FBU leader Matt Wrack (Socialist Worker, 3 March). The fightback must begin. The Tories are unopposed—they need to be dealt with.

@cheisback



Twenty thousand people marched through London last Saturday to say refugees are welcome and to reject racism and scapegoating. Over 3,000 marched in Glasgow and 300 in Cardiff

**T**HE PROTESTS, called by Stand Up to Racism, were young, angry and highly political. In London the march was twice the size of last year's and there were many more trade union banners.

Miriam and Isabela, Polish Muslims living in London, marched to show solidarity with refugees. Miriam said, "Whenever something goes wrong with economics they use Muslims, refugees and migrants as scapegoats."

Isabela added, "It all has to change. Politicians are in it for themselves, not to help people. They should have been prepared for refugees—they know what happens when they go to war."

The PCS union samba band beat out a lively marching pace on the London protest. Marchers chanted, "David Cameron—shame on you. Refugees are people too."

Rashas Hussein came to the protest with his family from Tooting in south London. He told Socialist Worker, "This is to try and make the powers listen. Britain should be taking more refugees."

Health workers marched as a bloc, and a large student bloc chanted, "Brick by brick, wall by wall, racist borders got to fall."

### Joined

Eleven year old Owen joined the march in Glasgow. He said he went because "the refugees haven't done anything to us".

A group of around 200 Eritreans led the Glasgow protest, including Estifanos Massias. He told Socialist Worker, "The Home Office is saying, 'Your country is safe, you should go back'."

"But why are so many running away from there? People are living in fear here because our families are being kidnapped and tortured."

He added, "I'm in Glasgow because people fought for me as a human being. Politicians don't seem to have this basic humanity."

Mulugeta Asgedom was helping to steward the march. He said, "We are sending a clear message that racism has no place in society."

"But we also want to raise the injustice in Eritrea. We want the world to know the



Getting ready to march in Glasgow

driving force behind refugees from our country."

In Cardiff 18 year old student Will was one of many furious at government policies that murder refugees. He told Socialist Worker, "If what you're doing is getting people killed, you should rethink what you're doing."

Pharmacy student Janeece Taj was also on the Cardiff demonstration. She told Socialist Worker, "Something needs to be done and the government needs to listen."

"They need to stop scapegoating and passing the blame. It's up to everyone to make a stand and say we're not accepting their racism."

Many marchers were determined to protest after visiting refugees and meeting them face to face. College student Emma from Wakefield joined a solidarity visit to refugees in Dunkirk, France.

She told Socialist Worker, "So many people got involved and showed support for the refugees. It definitely made an impact. I'm marching today because I want to give them a voice."

NHS worker Lyle agreed. "I went to Dunkirk in January," he said. "The conditions for people there are atrocious. I came back reinvigorated and wanting to do more."

Marchers rejected Tory lies that Britain doesn't have the resources to help those seeking refuge. Dom from Bedfordshire said, "We're a country of 60 million people where the vast majority of land is undeveloped. Taking 20,000 refugees is negligible."

Mohammed Kozbar



Rallying in Trafalgar Square

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** Guy Smallman  
Neil Terry, Julie Sherry, and  
Socialist Worker

from Finsbury Park Mosque told the London protest, "I've just come back from visiting camps in Lebanon. If Lebanon and Jordan can take millions of refugees then Britain and France can take a lot more."

Protesters also knew that migrant workers aren't their enemy. Dom from Oxford said, "We're always being told by the right wing press that we can't support immigrants and that they'll take our jobs."

"I'm here in solidarity with those who are desperate and to say they're welcome here."

Protesters also wanted to challenge state Islamophobia. NUS Black Students' Officer Malia Bouattia said the government's Prevent strategy had "made us prisoners in our homes".

Sabby Dhalu from Stand Up to Racism told the London protest, "Muslim women who wear the hijab and niqab have the right to walk down the street without fear of attack."

Dr Ramzi from London brought a homemade placard against US Republican Donald Trump. He told Socialist Worker, "Trump is the biggest racist and would not be a good

president. We're very worried as Muslims that Britain could go the same way. But we have to show we're united."

Trade unionists stressed that organised workers can play a key role in pushing back racism.

Manchester CWU union division rep Ian Taylor was on a delegation of CWU members on the London march. He told Socialist Worker, "A lot of people are fed rubbish from the right wing press. But there's another side and it's the role of trade unions to put it forward."

"For example, people read that immigration undercuts the labour market. But that only happens when people exploit immigrants, it's not natural."

Leeds postal worker Sean added, "Unions fight for working people—that includes migrants and refugees."

Justice campaigners, trade union leaders, refugees, Labour MPs and others addressed marchers. Marilyn Reed spoke about her daughter Sarah, who died in prison. Marilyn said, "My daughter Sarah Reed wasn't just a person with mental health issues—she was a

person with a life."

Writer Gary Younge pointed out that Syrian refugees didn't cause the financial crisis and Roma people aren't the ones making cuts.

"The real scroungers are the bankers," he said.

Labour shadow cabinet minister Diane Abbott spoke against right wing lies about migrants being a burden on the health service. "Far from being a drain on the NHS, without decades of migrant workers there would be no NHS," she said.

Iraqi refugee Anna said, "I didn't choose to be an Iraqi girl. We only have one nationality—the human nationality."

Lindsey German from the Stop the War Coalition said, "Refugees are victims of the West's wars. If five million refugees came to Europe that would be 1 percent of the population of Europe. The EU should be ashamed."

Union general secretaries including Sally Hunt, Christine Blower and Dave Ward spoke to the crowd in London.

Assistant general secretary of Unison Gloria Mills said, "Refugees are not commodities to be traded."



On the Glasgow march



Rashas Hussein and family



NHS workers on the march

## There's more on Socialist Worker online

- Reports from the day of protest [bit.ly/1RwMyuN](http://bit.ly/1RwMyuN)
- Galleries of photos of London [bit.ly/1ZnK343](http://bit.ly/1ZnK343) and Glasgow [bit.ly/1UKI5tP](http://bit.ly/1UKI5tP)
- Video report of London protest [bit.ly/1U4r5A4](http://bit.ly/1U4r5A4)

[SOCIALISTWORKER.CO.UK](http://SOCIALISTWORKER.CO.UK)

## Syrian refugees didn't cause the financial crisis



16,000 marched in Vienna

## Marches in 20 countries

**A**NTI-RACIST protests took place in almost 20 countries last Saturday following a call by Greek anti-racists and anti-fascists for an international day of action.

There was a huge turnout for a march on the European Union (EU) office in Athens—one of eight marches in Greece.

Refugees and migrant communities took part, as did many trade unions. One soldier said, "We refuse to guard the borders against refugees". Rows of riot police were brought in to protect the EU building from protesters.

Refugees chanting, "Open the border!" led the march in Greece's second city Thessalonica, where many are being evacuated from the island of Lesbos.

On Lesbos several hundred demonstrators had to wait for torrential rain to let up before marching to the harbour.

One of the biggest marches was in Austria—which has pushed for the closure of Greece's border. Some 16,000 people marched through Vienna to the parliament building then the EU office.

The Spanish state saw several protests. The largest was in Barcelona, where 15,000 people marched chanting, "No more death in the Mediterranean." Nobel peace prize 2015 winner Ahmed Galai of the Tunisian Human

Rights League joined the march.

Around 2,000 people marched in Paris including refugees and undocumented migrant workers.

The trial of racist politician Geert Wilders and a spate of far right attacks on refugee centres lent urgency to a march of 2,000 in Amsterdam.

Protesters were outraged at Dutch prime minister Mark Rutte's comments the previous day that refugees should "just stay home".

They marched past the monument for Kerwin Duinmeijer, a young Antillian man stabbed to death by a Nazi in 1983.

Thousands protested in Geneva and Zurich in Switzerland.

The Swiss government regularly deports refugees to other European countries under the Dublin agreement, violently separating families and friends. But there has been a surge in resistance, with a church in Lausanne occupied as a refuge.

Australia saw marches in several cities and a rally of almost 500 detainees inside the notorious Nauru island detention camp.

Protests also took place in Turkey, Lebanon, Poland, Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, Slovenia, Cyprus and Germany.

Thanks to Anna Palau Sole, Mark Kilian, Dimitris Daskalakis, Manolis Spathis, Vanina Guidicelli, David Albrich and everyone who sent reports.

## Everyone should get organised

**S**ATURDAY'S PROTESTS showed the anger against those at the top of society who try to divide us by attacking refugees and migrants.

But it was also a march of people who know they are creating a movement that can grow and make a real difference.

Now we have to build a bigger anti-racist, pro-migrant anti-Islamophobia movement with socialist politics at the centre of it.

Weyman Bennett from Stand Up to Racism told Socialist Worker, "It's been a great day and shows how many people reject the racism and scapegoating of the government."

"We have to keep campaigning to say refugees are welcome and to put Prevent in the bin. Stand Up to Racism now has to establish a permanent presence in every city across Britain."

This is only a stage in a much longer campaign." Stand Up to Racism has a series of national initiatives:

● Sunday 24 April, London: Trade Unions for Calais and Stand Up To Racism have called a conference to bring together trade unionists and others and report back on their recent delegation to Calais.

● Wednesday 25 May, central London rally: Refugees Welcome Here—Racism out of the Referendum

● Saturday 11 June, Calais convoy: Stand up to Racism is organising a major aid convoy to Calais in conjunction with trade unions, the People's Assembly Against Austerity and other campaigning groups.

● Saturday 15 October, central London conference: Stand Up To Racism is organising a major conference on refugees, Islamophobia, defending civil liberties, Prevent and the Extremism Bill, Black Lives Matter, and the key issues confronting anti-racists today.



Sending a message



A hard stare for the Tories



## WHAT WE STAND FOR

These are the core politics of the Socialist Workers Party.

### INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS ACTION

Under capitalism workers' labour creates all profit. A socialist society can only be constructed when the working class seizes control of the means of production and democratically plans how they are used.

### REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

The present system cannot be patched up or reformed as the established Labour and trade union leaders say.

It has to be overthrown. Capitalism systematically degrades the natural world. Ending environmental crisis means creating a new society.

### THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

The structures of the present parliament, army, police and judiciary cannot be taken over and used by the working class. They grew up under capitalism and are designed to protect the ruling class against the workers.

The working class needs an entirely different kind of state—a workers' state based upon councils of workers' delegates and a workers' militia.

At most parliamentary activity can be used to make propaganda against the present system.

Only the mass action of the workers themselves can destroy the system.

### INTERNATIONALISM

The struggle for socialism is part of a worldwide struggle. We campaign for solidarity with workers in other countries.

We oppose everything which turns workers from one country against those from other countries.

We oppose racism and imperialism. We oppose all immigration controls.

We support the right of black people and other oppressed groups to organise their own defence. We support all genuine national liberation movements.

The experience of Russia demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country.

In Russia the result was state capitalism, not socialism. In Eastern Europe and China a similar system was later established by Stalinist parties. We support the struggle of workers in these countries against both private and state capitalism.

We are for real social, economic and political equality of women. We are for an end to all forms of discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

We defend the right of believers to practise their religion without state interference.

### THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To achieve socialism the most militant sections of the working class have to be organised into a revolutionary socialist party.

Such a party can only be built by activity in the mass organisations of the working class.

We have to prove in practice to other workers that reformist leaders and reformist ideas are opposed to their own interests. We have to build a rank and file movement within the unions.

To join us, turn to page 16 or go to [www.swp.org.uk](http://www.swp.org.uk) or phone 020 7840 5602 for more information

European governments leave refugees out in the cold

# FORTRESS EUROPE REFUGEES, RACISM AND THE STATE

## { SOCIALIST WORKER } PUBLIC MEETINGS

### BIRMINGHAM: CITY CENTRE Marxism and feminism

Wed 6 Apr, 7pm,  
Birmingham LGBT Centre,  
38/40 Holloway Circus,  
B1 1EQ

### LEEDS: CITY CENTRE Marxism and women's liberation

Thu 24 Mar, 7pm,  
The Swarthmore  
Education Centre,  
2-7 Woodhouse Square,  
LS3 1AD

### MANCHESTER

#### The EU referendum—the case for a left exit

Thu 14 Apr, 7pm,  
Friends Meeting House,  
6 Mount St,  
M2 5NS

## { SOCIALIST WORKER } BRANCH MEETINGS

Weekly meetings to discuss political issues and our local interventions. All welcome.

### ABERDEEN

#### Fascism—what it is and how to fight it

Thu 24 Mar, 6pm,  
The Snug,  
Ma Cameron's,  
6-8 Little Belmont St,  
AB10 1JG

### BARNSELY

#### The internationalist case for leaving the European Union

Thu 24 Mar, 6.30pm,  
YMCA,  
Blucher St,  
S70 1AP

### BIRMINGHAM: CITY CENTRE

#### The rise of the Nazi Front National in France—how can it be stopped?

Wed 30 Mar, 7pm,  
Birmingham LGBT Centre,  
38/40 Holloway Circus,  
B1 1EQ

### BRADFORD

#### The economics of the madhouse

Wed 30 Mar, 7pm,  
Glyde House,  
Little Horton Lane,  
BD5 0BQ

### BRISTOL

#### 1916—the Easter Rising and Ireland's revolutionary tradition

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
YHA,  
14 Narrow Quay,  
BS1 4QA

### BURNLEY

#### Are we heading for another economic slump?

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Red Triangle Cafe,  
160 St. James's St, BB11 1NR

### CARDIFF

#### 100 years since the Easter Rising

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Cathays Community Centre,  
Cathays Terrace, CF24 4HX

### CHELMSFORD

#### Marxism and disability

Thu 7 Apr, 7.30pm,  
Friends Meeting House,  
Rainsford Rd,  
CM1 2QL

### CHESTERFIELD

#### Is opposing Israel antisemitic?

Thu 24 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Chesterfield Library,  
New Beetwell St,  
S40 1QN

### COVENTRY

#### The theory and practice of the united front

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
West Indian Centre,  
159 Spion St, CV1 3BB

### DERBY

#### Marxism and the fight for LGBT+ liberation

Thu 24 Mar, 7pm,  
West End Community Centre,  
Mackworth Rd, DE22 3BL

### DONCASTER

#### Refusing to forget the horrors of Auschwitz

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Women's Centre,  
21 Cleveland St,  
DN1 3EH

### DUDLEY

#### Trotsky and the united front

Wed 6 Apr, 8pm,  
The What Centre,  
23 Coventry St,  
DY8 1EP

### DUNDEE

#### The politics of nationalism

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Dundee Voluntary Action,  
10 Constitution Rd, DD1 1LL

### EDINBURGH

#### The history and politics of disability

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Friends Meeting House,  
7 Victoria St,  
EH1 2JL

### ESSEX

#### Bernie Sanders—could there be a red in the White House?

Thu 7 Apr, 7.30pm,  
Friends Meeting House,  
Rainsford Rd,  
CM1 2QL

### GLASGOW: SOUTH

#### Is Bernie Sanders the US's Jeremy Corbyn?

Thu 31 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Govanhill Baths,  
99 Calder St,  
Govanhill  
G42 7RA

### HUDDERSFIELD

#### Is Bernie Sanders the US's Jeremy Corbyn?

Wed 30 Mar, 6.30pm,  
Brian Jackson House,  
2 New North Parade  
(near both train and bus stations),  
HD1 5JP

### HULL

#### The EU—a left case for exit

Thu 21 Apr, 7.30pm,  
Grafton Hotel,  
114-116 Grafton St,  
HU5 2NP

### IPSWICH

#### The EU—a left case for exit

Thu 5 May, 7.15pm,  
Labour Club,  
33-35 Silent St,  
IP1 1TF

### LANCASTER

#### Is Bernie Sanders the US's Jeremy Corbyn?

Thu 24 Mar, 7pm,  
Friends Meeting House,  
Meeting House Lane,  
LA1 1TX

### LEEDS: CITY CENTRE

#### The EU referendum—how should socialists vote?

Thu 31 Mar, 7pm,  
The Swarthmore  
Education Centre,  
2-7 Woodhouse Square,  
LS3 1AD

### LIVERPOOL

#### Ireland—the Easter Rising 100 years on

Thu 24 Mar, 7.30pm,  
The Caledonia,  
22 Caledonia St,  
L7 7DX

### LONDON: BRENT AND HARROW

#### The 1916 Easter Uprising and Ireland's revolutionary tradition

Thu 24 Mar, 7.30pm,  
The Pepperpot Centre,  
1a Thorpe Close,  
Ladbroke Grove,  
W10 5XL

### LONDON: BRIXTON

#### Do we need violence to get real social change?

Wed 30 Mar, 7pm,  
Vida Walsh Centre,  
2b Saltoun Rd  
(near Effra Rd, facing Windrush Square),  
SW2 1EP

## SOCIALIST WORKER BRANCH MEETINGS

### BOLTON

Thu 24 Mar, 6.30pm,  
Bolton Socialist Club,  
16 Wood St  
(off Bradshawgate),  
BL1 1DY

### BRIGHTON

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Friends' Meeting House,  
Ship St,  
BN1 1AF

### CAMBRIDGE

Thu 24 Mar, 7.30pm,  
St Paul's,  
Hills Rd, CB2 1JP

### COLCHESTER

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
The Odd One Out,  
28 Mersea Rd,  
CO2 7ET

### EXETER

Thu 24 Mar, 7pm,  
New Horizon Cafe,  
47 Longbrook St,  
EX4 6AW

### LONDON: EALING

#### Corbynomics—can it work?

Thu 24 Mar, 7.30pm,  
West London Trade  
Union Club,  
33-35 High St, Acton,  
W3 6ND

### LONDON: HACKNEY

#### James Connolly and the 1916 Easter Rising

Thu 24 Mar, 7.30pm,  
The Round Chapel,  
2 Powerscroft Rd,  
E5 0PU

### LONDON: HARINGEY

#### US elections—is Bernie Sanders the US's Jeremy Corbyn?

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
West Indian Cultural Centre,  
9 Clarendon Rd,  
N8 0DJ  
LONDON: ISLINGTON  
Capitalism vs the climate—how do we stop environmental disaster?  
Thu 24 Mar, 7pm,  
The Old Fire Station,  
84 Mayton St,  
N7 6QT

### LONDON: KINGSTON

#### Trotsky and the politics of the united front

Thu 24 Mar, 7pm,  
Kingston Quaker Centre,  
Fairfield East,  
KT1 2PT

### LONDON: LEWISHAM

#### Easter 1916 and Ireland's revolutionary tradition

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
West Greenwich Community  
and Arts Centre,  
141 Greenwich High Rd,  
SE10 8JA

### LONDON: NEWHAM

#### The revolutionary ideas of Karl Marx

Wed 30 Mar, 7pm,  
Stratford Advice Arcade,  
107-109 The Grove,  
E15 1HP

### LONDON: SOUTHWARK

#### Is Bernie Sanders the US's Jeremy Corbyn?

Thu 24 Mar, 7pm,  
Camberwell Leisure Centre  
(Room 2), Artichoke Place  
(off Camberwell  
Church St),  
SE5 8TS

### LONDON: WALTHAM FOREST

#### Bernie Sanders—could there be a red in the White house?

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Quaker Meeting House,  
1a Jewel Rd  
(off Hoe St),  
E17 4QU

### HARLOW

Thu 24 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Friends Meeting House,  
1 Church Leys,  
CM18 6BX

### LONDON: CAMDEN

Thu 24 Mar, 7pm,  
Chadwick Building - G07,  
University College London,  
Gower St,  
WC1E 6BT

### LONDON: TOWER

#### HAMLETS

Wed 30 Mar, 7pm,  
Oxford House,  
Derbyshire St,  
E2 6HG

### MANCHESTER:

#### CITY CENTRE

Thu 24 Mar, 7PM,  
Friends Meeting House,  
6 Mount St,  
M2 5NS

### MANCHESTER: LONGSIGHT AND LEVENSHULME

Thu 24 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Inspire, 747 Stockport Rd,  
M19 3AR

### NORWICH

Thu 24 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Vauxhall Centre,  
Johanson Place,  
NR2 2SA

### ROTHERHAM

Wed 20 Apr, 7pm,  
Talbot Lane Methodist  
Church Centre,  
Moorgate St, S60 2EY

### SHEFFIELD: CITY CENTRE

Thu 24 Mar, 7pm,  
Central United  
Reformed Church,  
60 Norfolk St (near  
Crucible Theatre),  
S1 2JB

### ST ALBANS

#### The EU—a left case for exit

Wed 20 Apr, 7.30pm,  
Trinity Church Hall (upstairs),  
1 Beaconsfield Rd,  
AL1 3RD

### SWANSEA

#### Human nature—are we too selfish for socialism?

Thu 24 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Brynmill Community Centre,  
St Albans Rd,  
SA2 0BP

### TELFORD

#### The EU—a left case for exit

Thu 28 Apr, 7.30pm,  
Carriages, The Parade,  
Wellington,  
TF1 1PY

### WOLVERHAMPTON

#### AND WALSALL

#### What would democracy look like in a socialist society?

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Wild Bytes Cafe,  
Darlington St,  
WV1 4HW

### YORK

#### The headscarf revolutionaries—the story of the Hull trawler campaign for justice

Wed 30 Mar, 7.30pm,  
Sea Horse Hotel,  
4 Fawcett St, YO10 4AH

## { MOVEMENT EVENTS }

### NATIONAL

#### March for Health, Homes, Jobs and Education

Sat 16 Apr, 1pm,  
Gower St, Euston Rd,  
London, WC1.  
Called by the People's  
Assembly.  
Go to [thepeoplesassembly.org.uk](http://thepeoplesassembly.org.uk)

#### Marxism Festival 2016—ideas to change the world

Thu 30 Jun—Mon 4 July  
Central London.  
[marxismfestival.org.uk](http://marxismfestival.org.uk)  
or phone 020 7840 5620  
Five days of meetings  
and debates hosted by the  
Socialist Workers Party

## CONTACT THE SWP

Phone 020 7840 5600

Email

[enquires@swp.org.uk](mailto:enquires@swp.org.uk)

Post PO Box 71327,  
London SE11 9BW



# Dredging up the evidence of a bankrupt, criminal society

BBC Four's Danish detective drama *Follow the Money* serves up an engrossing feast of corporate intrigue and financial skulduggery, writes **Charlie Kimber**

**A WORKER'S** dead body is pulled from the sea. On his jacket is the symbol of Energreen.

It's a super-modern firm that claims to be working for a fossil-free future. But are its green credentials as false as a Volkswagen diesel?

The opening scenes of *Follow the Money* set us up nicely for a feast of corporate intrigue, tensions inside the police and financial skulduggery.

The cop called to view the body is Mads. He juggles his high-pressure sleuthing with looking after two children and caring for his wife who has MS.

In many police dramas he would be knocking back the spirits, but at the moment he's only on the Carlsberg.

Honest Mads is contrasted with the sinister Energreen boss Sander. He's a media-savvy man whose ruthlessness is carefully hidden.

His workers have mottoes on their desk, such as "If your dreams don't scare you, they are not big enough".

There's also a story going on which implies that soaring property prices lead to car theft. Well, exactly.

## Engrossing

If you enjoyed the Danish political drama *Borgen*, you will be cheered that the screenwriter for *Follow the Money* is the same Jeppe Gjernvig Gram.

Some reviewers think the programme is all a bit slow. But I found it engrossing and commendable for not bombarding us with too many unconnected characters and plots.

There's also a well-acted section about the lives of migrant workers, who are driven to ignore health and safety in order to keep their jobs.

They travel from country to country, desperate to provide for their families. But in doing so they risk their own lives and the devastation of their families.

In a powerful scene the workers decide to trust Mads and expose their bosses' crimes. Do you think the police will stand by them to the end?

The BBC says this is "a story of our world the economic crisis almost overturned."

A world "which is still holding its breath as it waits for the next bubble to burst and for the next economic tsunami to strike."

A deplorable lack of human agency in that analysis, but otherwise not bad.

As Alf from the Financial Crime Squad says at the start of episode two, "We follow the money—everything else is a means to an end".

**Follow the Money**

BBC Four  
Thursdays, 9pm



DETECTIVE MADS juggles his high-pressure sleuthing with caring for his kids and sick wife

## EXHIBITION

**STRANGE AND FAMILIAR: BRITAIN AS REVEALED BY INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS**

Barbican Centre, London EC2Y 8DS.  
Until 16 June.

## Taking aim at class society in Britain

THIS EXHIBITION takes a stand against our rulers' attempts to make even the starkest poverty and most obscene degradation seem "natural".

It brings together some of the 20th century's best international photographers.

As outsiders unacclimatised to British society, many of their scenes are loaded with indignation at the way workers and their families are treated.

Communist Edith Tudor-Hart's pictures of a hungry child peering into an East End

bakery's window in 1935 is heart wrenching.

But her next shot of a group of Chinese children outside the same bakery shows she isn't trying to pluck heartstrings.

The harsh glares she receives let you know that they're not victims, but subjects in their own right.

The exhibition's first floor continues in this vein, downstairs things start to go a bit wrong.

In particular, Bruce Gilden's large portraits of working class faces from the Black Country

are mocking and designed to provoke revulsion.

Not everyone succumbs. Akihiko Okamura depicts both the horror and mundanity of the Northern Ireland Troubles.

The way in which the exhibition tails off is disappointing, but it's more than a problem of curation.

The socially committed photographers were groundbreaking. But that's because they saw their work as part of changing society.

**Yuri Prasad**

## THEATRE

### LUCE

Directed by Simon Dormandy  
Southwark Playhouse,  
London SE1 6BD.

Until 2 April.

Tickets £20 and  
concessions £16

[southwarkplayhouse.co.uk](http://southwarkplayhouse.co.uk)

LUCE IS a play about the paranoia of "homegrown terrorism" in the West.

Teenager Luce (Martins Imhangbe) has fled the war-torn Congo in Africa and been adopted in the US.

But when he writes an essay about a 1970s nationalist leader, his teacher Harriet suspects Luce is planning a terror attack.

The play raises important questions around terrorism, racism and education at a time when Britain's Prevent strategy targets Muslim children as terror suspects.

## FILM

### HIGH-RISE

Directed by Ben Wheatley.  
StudioCanal.

Out now in cinemas.

DIRECTOR BEN Wheatley's latest film is based on science fiction writer JG Ballard's *High-Rise*.

Ballard used science fiction to take apart the false consolations of modern capitalism.

Here the young doctor Robert Laing becomes enthralled with an isolated community living in a luxury high rise.

The film brilliantly shows Ballard's dystopian vision of a decaying 1970s Britain.

## TOP 5 BOOKS

**Bestsellers at Bookmarks, the socialist Bookshop**

- A Rebel's Guide to James Connolly**  
Seán Mitchell
- The EU—a left case for exit**  
Joseph Choonara
- Raising Expectations (and Raising Hell): My Decade Fighting for the Labor Movement**  
Jane McAlevey
- 1916—Ireland's Revolutionary Tradition**  
Kieran Allen
- Sexism and the System—a Rebel's Guide to Women's Liberation**  
Judith Orr

Phone 020 7637 1848  
[bookmarksbookshop.co.uk](http://bookmarksbookshop.co.uk)  
Why not visit the shop at 1 Bloomsbury Street, London WC1B 3QE



**A** battle was raging between the left and right inside the Labour Party in the early 1980s. The Labour right feared they were losing control.

Two recently re-released books, *Hammer of the Left* by 1980s Labour politician John Golding and journalist Michael Crick's *Militant*, look at what went on then.

They are handbooks for a new generation of Labour right wingers learning how to fight old battles. The left, both inside and outside Labour, have lessons to learn from the 1980s too.

When the Labour government was booted out of office in 1979 it had spent the previous two years making workers pay for a bosses' crisis. A cap on public sector workers' pay sparked a series of strikes in the winter of 1978-79—the "Winter of Discontent".

There was discontent inside Labour's own ranks too. Party conferences and its national executive committee frequently passed motions opposed to Labour government policies.

None of this bothered prime minister James Callaghan who, in the words of Golding, saw conference decisions "merely as declarations of opinion".

He took Labour into the 1979 general election on a right wing manifesto—and lost.

Workers were not inspired to vote for a party that had spent years attacking them, while union leaders held back the struggle.

### Anger

Yet anger among Labour activists produced a swing to the left. Denis Healey, the right's replacement for Callaghan, was defeated by the left's candidate Michael Foot.

But this wasn't enough to satisfy the Labour left's desire for change. They demanded the right to re-select sitting MPs before elections and a change in the way the party leader was elected.

Previously the leader was elected by Labour MPs only. But in 1981 the left won a proposal to elect leaders by a "college" of union bloc votes, Constituency Labour Parties and MPs.

This small rule change was enough for some right wing Labour MPs, who feared they would further lose control, to threaten resignation.

For the left, it was a huge step forwards. That same year, Tony Benn launched a challenge for Labour deputy leader. Benn's campaign rallies attracted thousands of Labour party activists.

They were excited by the rise of the left—and the prospect of a Labour Party that could offer a genuine alternative to Margaret Thatcher.

This excitement reflected a genuine desire among sections of workers and trade unionists for a party that can fight for their interests against the Tories

# FIGHTING LABOUR'S CIVIL WAR

As the Labour left fights to defend leader Jeremy Corbyn, Nick Clark argues that the early 1980s show how focusing on internal party battles ends in giving way to the right

Michael Foot

and the bosses. For many, that party was Labour.

But for Labour politicians, winning elections means having to appeal to voters from all sections of society—not just workers and the left. So they talk of governing in a "national interest".

What they're really saying is that they'll try to manage capitalism responsibly—and that means acting in the bosses' interests. Marxists Tony Cliff and Donny Gluckstein

“

**The Labour left also feel the pull of elections and needing to keep party unity**

explained that this contradiction is at the heart of the tension between the left and right inside Labour.

They wrote, "Labour voices working class aspirations but only to the extent that they can be fitted into the workings of the national state.

"The balance between the two factors is represented in the split between Labour's left and right—each side representing one aspect of the common reformist whole."

Because the position of Labour MPs relies entirely on being elected, this rightward pull is stronger on them than the activists at Labour's base.

Unfortunately Labour's focus on parliament and elections also means that MPs are more powerful.

So when a group of Labour MPs broke away to form the Social Democratic Party (SDP) in 1981, it actually strengthened the right.

Crick described how "Foot was coming under increasing pressure from the right". "The implied threat was that if he did not act against the far left, the ranks of Labour MPs would shrink still further," he wrote.

Spurred on by reports in the media of a "Trotskyite" takeover of the Labour Party, Foot launched an investigation into the far left group Militant.

It was the first of many witch-hunts, but the real target was Labour's hard left around Benn. By attacking Militant, the Labour right hoped to make it harder for the whole left to organise.

**F**OR THEIR part, the Bennite left was paralysed. The Labour left also feel the pull of elections and the need to keep the party together, even as the right attacks them.

What's more Labour's near-defeat at the hands of the SDP in a by-election in the previously safe seat of Warrington shook the party.

Many who backed Benn started to fear that the left had gone too far.

Benn narrowly lost the deputy leadership election, and he began to lose the support of a layer of trade union officials and soft left MPs he had relied on.

In 1982 he agreed not to mount another challenge.

The truth was that while there had been a shift to the left among Labour Party activists, the working class was still demoralised and fragmented.

This led to a shift to the right and a drain on Labour's support.

The move to the left in Labour was important—it represented a radicalisation of a significant layer of party activists.

But the left's enthusiasm for rule changes and block votes was a world away from the actual experience of the working class.

Recent industrial defeats had left workers with little confidence in the possibility of change.

The focus on internal party battles did nothing to relate to that atmosphere, let alone start to change it.

Now, faced with the reality of electoral defeat, the left began to chase after right wing votes.

Foot backed Thatcher's war in the Falklands in the "national interest". To his credit Benn stood against the war, but was increasingly isolated. Even Militant refused to back the call

for the withdrawal of the British fleet.

When Labour lost the general election again in 1983, Foot was replaced by Neil Kinnock from the party's soft left.

He was backed by many Labour members who had supported Benn in 1981, as well as most of the unions.

Now Labour's return to the right began in earnest. Kinnock made it his task to get rid of Militant completely.

This began with an attack on the Militant-controlled Liverpool City Council in 1985 for setting an illegal budget.

Kinnock's plan to "modernise" Labour also included calling for the imprisonment of Poll Tax protesters in 1991—just as they brought down Thatcher.

At a time of huge bitterness towards the Tories, Kinnock managed to lose the elections in 1987 and 1992. His legacy was to pave the way for the era of Tony Blair, Gordon Brown and New Labour.

### Differences

There are important differences today. Labour's leader Jeremy Corbyn and his shadow chancellor John McDonnell have spent their entire political lives on the left.

And the vote for Corbyn by more than 88,000 registered supporters—not actual Labour Party members—shows there is a radicalisation taking place beyond Labour's ranks.

But there are similarities, and the danger of repeating old mistakes.

Faced with vicious opposition from the party's right, some on the left are gearing up for more internal battles.

Labour conference this September is likely to see lengthy and complicated debates over party rules all with the aim of just keeping Corbyn in place.

It's important to stand up to the Labour right.

But the lesson of the 1980s should be that focusing on internal battles eventually means giving way to the right.

More than 200,000 people voted for Corbyn as leader. Very few of them will want to take part in bureaucratic wrangling over rule changes in interminable party meetings.

But thousands of them will have joined the Stop Trident and Stand Up to Racism protests this year.

Thousands more will probably join the People's Assembly

### READ MORE

● **Hammer of the Left: the battle for the soul of the Labour Party** by John Golding £10.99

● **Militant** by Michael Crick £10.99

● **Jeremy Corbyn, Labour and the fight for socialism** by Charlie Kimber £3.00

Jeremy Corbyn

● **The Labour Party—a Marxist History** by Tony Cliff and Donny Gluckstein £8.99

Available at Bookmarks, the socialist bookshop. Phone 020 7637 1848 or go to [bookmarksbookshop.co.uk](http://bookmarksbookshop.co.uk)



demonstration against austerity on 16 April.

Defending Corbyn from the right will mean building on this potential—not in a fight to change Labour, but in a fight to change society.



## HISTORY OF THE EASTER RISING

‘Justice can make but one reply’

The Easter Rising ended in a massacre by the British state. Sylvia Pankhurst helped to expose the horror, writes John Newsinger

SYLVIA PANKHURST, the militant anti-war socialist and suffragette, was in Newcastle when she first heard news of the Easter Rising in Dublin in April 1916.

Pankhurst's response was dramatic.

Writing in the newspaper *Woman's Dreadnought* she proclaimed, "Justice can make but one reply to the Irish rebellion and that is to demand that Ireland shall be allowed to govern herself."

Pankhurst had strong reservations about the wisdom of the Rising. Nevertheless she argued that it "was but a stage in the long struggle for Irish independence".

The *Woman's Dreadnought* sent the 21 year old Patricia Lynch, born in Cork, Ireland, to Dublin.

The result was Lynch's *Scenes from the Irish Rebellion*, a genuine scoop.

When Lynch arrived in Dublin, "the barricades were still across the streets and soldiers guarding them".

### Smouldering

Buildings were still smouldering and bodies "were being brought out".

A curfew was still in operation so that workers could not go to work and earn. Even when the curfew was briefly relaxed in the mornings for people to buy food, they had no money.

Many of the poorest Dubliners had been reduced to a condition ranging from "semi-starvation to absolute starvation".

Lynch had no doubt that the appalling social conditions that existed in Dublin were the real cause of the Rising.

It had long been impossible, she wrote, "for men and women of the working class to live like human beings".

Housing conditions in the

BRITISH SHELLING made conditions in Dublin even worse

city had been "more deadly than the trenches.

"Out of every six children born, one dies."

Conditions were "a scandal to civilisation". And now British shelling and military rule had made conditions even worse.

On 20 May, the paper reported that "all the signatories of the republican proclamation have been shot".

The execution of the wounded socialist James Connolly "shines out as the most cruel".

But what particularly outraged Sylvia and her comrades was the murder of the socialist, feminist and pacifist, Francis Sheehy-Skeffington.

He had been the *Daily Herald's* Dublin correspondent during the Great Lockout of 1913 and was well-known on the British left.

He had been arrested by Captain Bowen-Colthurst, an Irish Unionist. After serving his purpose as a "human shield", Sheehy-Skeffington

was put up against a wall and shot.

Unfortunately for Bowen-Colthurst, his immediate superior major Francis Vane just happened to be a former supporter of Pankhurst's East London Federation of Suffragettes.

He had drilled her 800-strong People's Army before the war.

He demanded that Bowen-Colthurst be court-martialled and publicly exposed the efforts that were made to cover up the shootings.

### Murdered

*Dreadnought* published his account of the Rising. This included how "poor Skeffington had been murdered by an officer under my command" and how the authorities "intended to hush the matter up".

Vane was convinced that "a clique" of Unionist officers had encouraged "indiscriminate shooting for the nefarious purpose of making the rebellion appear as badly as possible in the eyes of the world".

Vane was dismissed from the army, while Bowen-Colthurst was eventually bought to trial.

He was conveniently found guilty but insane, then held in a mental hospital for just over a year before being quietly released.

John Newsinger is the author of a new book, *Sylvia Pankhurst, the Easter Rising and the Woman's Dreadnought*, published by the Socialist History Society

“

**Many of the poorest in Dublin had been reduced to starvation**



# Step up struggle for Small Heath

>>continued from page 20

carrying out NUT policy.

And as the Tories unveil plans to force every school in England to become an academy, it's crucial that the union fights to defend its reps.

Bosses lifted Simon's suspension earlier this month—exposing how flimsy it was to begin with.

They then promptly suspended him again.

Workers have shown that they are prepared to fight.

They held three three-day strikes to demand Simon's reinstatement before the NUT suspended the action.

## Escalate

They have shown they are prepared to escalate their action too.

NUT members met earlier this month and overwhelmingly backed a plan to up the strikes from three-day to five-day walkouts in defence of Simon.

Unfortunately the national union refused to implement the collective decision of the



SMALL HEATH teachers on strike last month

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN

branch. Several NUT members met on Wednesday of last week to discuss the dispute and how it can move forward.

They were set to consider

a motion supporting an indicative ballot against oppressive management at Small Heath school at Tuesday's meeting.

Many have told Socialist

Worker that they feel intimidated at work and would feel safer with their union rep reinstated.

Workers are also concerned about changes bosses

may impose at Small Heath if they get away with weakening the union.

Teachers are right to resist Simon's suspension—and to take determined action

against it.

The dispute isn't just about one union rep.

It is about defending the right of all workers to organise and for unions to take action.

But there is a danger that demoralisation can set in if the national union doesn't make clear that it is fully behind the fight.

## Strategy

Workers need to feel that there is a strategy to win.

The NUT is one of the biggest unions in Britain.

It has the strength and resources to generate overwhelming support for Small Heath teachers and pile the pressure onto school bosses.

This fight can be won—if the union urgently steps up the struggle.

■ **SOCIALIST** candidates **Stefan Simms** and **Anne Lemon** were re-elected to the NUT's national executive committee last week. Left candidates **Simon Murch** and **Jess Edwards** were also elected.

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# ‘CORBYN GIVES US HOPE TO FIGHT’



IAN HODSON campaigning for Fast Food Rights

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN

Bfawu union president Ian Hodson spoke to Nick Clark about what Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn's victory means for workers who want to fight back against austerity

## WHAT did Jeremy Corbyn's election mean for the left and trade unionists?

I wasn't surprised that Jeremy won. A lot of people may think that's easy to say after the event. But the reality is I was quite confident that he could win.

It gives us a lot of hope.

I think Corbyn's election is the opportunity that we've been waiting for in our trade union—to have a real debate about what society should look like.

It's an opportunity to really discuss the issues that we face.

Do we want an NHS? Do we want people to be able to have a home? Do we want people to have a job with a contract of employment? Do we want a welfare state?

Those issues can now be openly discussed. We have a political party that is now prepared to engage in that debate.

We haven't had it for a long time because we've been too scared.

## Other union leaders and activists on the left have previously looked towards building a left alternative to Labour. But you always argued for people to stay in Labour.

It was our party, why should we leave? It came out of the trade union movement.

We stayed in the party, we fought our corner, we put forward the policies that we believed in.

We weren't always successful. Clearly, the positions that Labour has taken over the last twenty odd years have not been the positions that we have held as a union.

Our members decide at conference the policies that the union should follow. We're a democratic organisation. We've had a



Bfawu members march against the Tories

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN

number of debates at our conference and the majority has always been in favour of remaining inside the Labour Party and fighting from within.

Now I think it was definitely the right place for us to be.

One of the things it did give us, even if we might not have been seen as an integral part of the Labour Party, was the opportunity to at least put our points of view across to the leadership.

That's something that wasn't available to people outside of the Labour Party.

How can people inside and outside of Labour work together?

We have an opportunity to unite people around a vision for a better society because Jeremy Corbyn's election is an opportunity to build a fairer, better, more equal society.

There will be people who want to join the Labour Party, and be active within the Labour Party. But I think there is scope for working with people who don't join the Labour

Party but want the same things and engage with the same agenda.

What's important is that we recognise the opportunity that Corbyn's election gives us and that we try and unite around a reasonable agenda.

This could include defending the NHS, campaigning for a minimum wage of £10 an hour, abolishing zero hours contracts, defending the right for people to have access to justice, access to council housing.

And most people on the left say that governments should provide full employment.

Those are all areas that we on the left would say are part of our agenda.

So whether you're inside or outside of the Labour Party is an irrelevance.

What's important is that a Corbyn-led Labour Party changes its policies to reflect the needs of today's society and we all work together for the election of a Labour government.

## It would be good to see a Corbyn-led Labour government. But there are people inside Labour who would like to get rid of him.

Debate's important, everybody's entitled to an opinion. But when people have expressed an opinion and a debate takes place, once you come out of that discussion then they should be fighting for a Labour victory.

In the Labour Party they have a leader who's been elected by all sections of the party.

Regardless of what an individual may feel, they should throw their weight behind the party's agenda, which is still being shaped to reflect what people want in our society.

## One of the things that we can all unite around is fighting the Trade Union Bill. But there are different ideas about how to do that. What do you think?

The Labour Party is now saying that it will stand in support of workers in disputes rather than saying that workers should go back to work and settle it through Acas.

That's an important message to send to workers. Workers don't go on strike at the drop of a hat, they go on strike because there's a grievance. That should be recognised and they shouldn't be chastised by politicians who really don't understand the lives that workers lead.

So the opportunity that we now see with politicians engaging and standing on picket lines means that they will have first-hand experience of what those people's real grievances are.

I think that may encourage them to recognise the need for change in the way that trade unions are currently legislated against.

Then, instead of being demonised as part of a problem, it will help politicians realise that working people are part of the solution to the problems we face. Collective organisations don't threaten society.

## But how should we be prepared to resist the bill once it comes in?

There are a number of things that I would like to see the Labour movement do. Instead of waiting for a union to be targeted, we should be pre-emptive. So we need to put together a message to the government that says, we will refuse to accept the trade union legislation.

It's the only thing that they understand.

Socialist Worker is interviewing a number of union leaders and other figures on the left to discuss how to build a bigger fightback. Read interviews with CWU leader Dave Ward at [bit.ly/23Hpk11](http://bit.ly/23Hpk11), PCS union leader Mark Serwotka at [bit.ly/1n1bMJD](http://bit.ly/1n1bMJD) and FBU leader Matt Wrack at [bit.ly/1W2rEYz](http://bit.ly/1W2rEYz)





## IN BRIEF

**Final curtain for Opera pay dispute**

CHORUS SINGERS at the English National Opera called off a planned strike last week. Their union Equity agreed to a £5,000 wage cut—bosses had wanted a £10,000 a year cut.

The singers had planned to strike against wage cuts and plans to reduce the chorus from 44 to 40 singers.

Equity “reluctantly” agreed to the deal due to cuts to Arts Council funding.

**Holiday hold-up for hot cross buns**

WORKERS AT Allied Bakeries in Cardiff were set to strike for 24 hours on Wednesday.

The Bfawu union members are fighting plans to change holiday entitlements and shift patterns. The strike will hit the production of 90,000 hot cross buns before Easter.

**Electric action at Network Rail**

RMT UNION members working for Network Rail in track renewals and electrification were set to strike for 48 hours from 4pm this Saturday. They want better terms and conditions.

**Heathrow Tube strike takes off**

RMT UNION members on the Piccadilly Line are set to strike for 24 hours from 9pm on Wednesday over “abuse of the disciplinary process and breaches of our agreements”.

The walkout would hit travel to Heathrow airport. Further 24-hour strikes are planned on 19 and 21 April.

**Buses set to stop around Manchester**

STAGECOACH BUS drivers are preparing to ballot for strikes in Greater Manchester after rejecting a two-year pay offer.

The ballot covers 1,300 Unite union members. Bosses refused to pay an extra 5p an hour for the second year.

**Coop lorry drivers win talks at Acas**

THE UNITE union called then suspended a two-day strike of up to 700 lorry drivers at the Co-op last week.

Bosses want to outsource 87 workers based in Coventry to Eddie Stobart. The union suspended the strike after the Co-op agreed to talks.

**London left rallies against bosses’ EU**

GROUPS ARGUING a left wing case against the European Union (EU) planned to meet in London this week.

It’s urgent the anti-EU case isn’t left to the right. The left case needs to be heard.

●The EU—the case for left exit, Wednesday 23 March, 6.30pm, Indian YMCA, 41 Fitzroy Square, London, W1T 6AQ

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

# Lambeth library staff strike to stop Labour council cuts

LIBRARY WORKERS in Lambeth, south London, began a solid two-day walkout on Tuesday in their battle against the Labour council’s deep and unpopular library cuts.

Three libraries are set to close on 1 April, with the borough’s other seven affected by budget cuts. Two of the libraries, Minet and Carnegie, are to be handed over to a private firm to run as gyms.

Thousands of people oppose the plan and back the strike.

“We’re getting donations in from individuals and union branches,” Brixton library Unison union rep Tim O’Dell said. “At one campaign meeting last week £257 was collected for the strike fund.”

He added “The support is crucial. It is boosting morale among library workers and strengthening our resolve to fight these cuts.”

Lambeth Unison ends a consultative ballot on Wednesday of this week for a council-wide strike in defence of the libraries.

Campaigners are turning their focus on Labour. At Sadiq Khan’s London mayoral election campaign launch in nearby Southwark they protested with placards which said, “Don’t steal our libraries.”

Carnegie library Unison rep Caroline Mackie said, “It’s sad to see him celebrating the opening of a new library while our beautiful Carnegie is being closed. We call on Sadiq Khan to oppose these cuts and help us defend the ten.”

Tim added, “If the council goes ahead on 1 April, which it has no local support for, we will be looking to strike again.”

●Send solidarity messages to jrogers@lambeth.gov.uk  
Send donations payable to Lambeth Unison c/o Unison, 1st floor, International House, Canterbury Crescent, London, SW9 7QE



STRIKERS AT Lambeth’s Carnegie library this week

PICTURE: SOCIALIST WORKER

## GLASGOW

## CCTV workers defy night shift robbery

GLASGOW TRADE unions are moving towards a council-wide strike against the cuts. The Labour-run administration is attacking workers’ terms and conditions.

It comes as two live disputes by CCTV workers and school janitors are growing in strength and both voted last week to intensify their action.

Both are employed by council-owned firms and are fighting for the same conditions as directly employed council staff.

Council bosses want to drive down conditions for every worker. The ruling Labour group plans to slash £130 million and 1,500 posts in the next two years.

It wants reduced public

holidays, new restrictions on flexi leave and cuts to annual leave for new starters. Other cuts in the pipeline have yet to be spelled out.

The Unison, GMB and Unite unions are balloting thousands of members.

A consultative ballot of 1,000 GMB members, including refuse and parks staff, saw a 95 percent vote for strikes. A full strike ballot will run over the next month.

Unison is balloting 1,200 residential care staff for strikes over the next month, and another 4,000 are to be consulted on strikes.

Glasgow council workers have shown over recent years that strikes can get results.

That experience should

be used to build bigger council workers’ solidarity for the janitors and the CCTV strike and to boost the fights to come.

Striking janitors last week marched on the council and their Cordia employers’ headquarters.

CCTV workers protested outside the council last Friday, in masks and pyjamas to highlight bosses’ “daylight robbery on the night shift”.

Striker John told Socialist Worker, “It’s hard to go to work every day and the guy sitting next to you is being paid £7,500 a year more.”

Bosses want to entrench this kind of inequality across the board—it’s time to step up the action to beat them back.

## EDUCATION

## Walkout sees bosses back off

TEACHERS IN the NASUWT union at St Peter’s Collegiate School in Wolverhampton struck on Wednesday of last week.

They planned further action. But the school announced on Monday that “a solution has been found which enables the school to fund staff pay and progression entitlements.”

The picket line was large and upbeat. Many workers had never struck before but were “up for it, to win.”

One said, “All of a sudden the employers want to talk, having avoided meeting us up to now.”

A union official said the school had been given funding to lift up teachers’ pay in line with national pay awards.

But it had not passed the money on to staff and then claimed not to have it.

David Wyatt

## COLLEGES

## Watch out for action

WORKERS AT Lambeth College in south London were set to strike on Thursday of this week. The UCU union members are fighting excessive lesson observations.

UCU rep Mandy Brown is told Socialist Worker, “We’ve been boycotting lesson observations since November. But now management have started to target our new union members.”

“They keep rescheduling new observations every week. It’s really stressful.”

Sadie Robinson

●Send messages of support to mandybrowncow@hotmail.com

## SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS

## Campaigning conference

AROUND 250 people attended the Social Work Action Network’s (Swan) first student conference last week.

They discussed radical social work and how to fight for better services. There was much discussion of the impact of cuts on social work practice and the growing culture of managerialism.

They looked to the Roma team in Glasgow, one of very few to still practice community social work.

Only by understanding the class basis of society can we work with communities to challenge their oppression.

Rory Anderson

## OBITUARY

**Ian Murray 1954-2016**

OUR LONGSTANDING and much loved comrade Ian Murray died unexpectedly last Friday of a suspected heart attack.

His constant good humour and unflappable manner, combined with very clear politics, made him a central figure in the Wolverhampton and Walsall branch of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP).

He has been key to so much of our activity, not least in rising to the challenge of



Ian Murray

combatting the fascist British National Party and English Defence League.

As a teacher Ian brought politics and optimism for over three decades into the

NUT union and was Sandwell NUT general secretary before he retired. Yet retiring from teaching certainly didn’t mean retiring from the cause.

Ian was ever-present supporting the strikes at Small Heath school. Strikers said that his support and inspiration, coupled with his tea and camping stove, helped them to defeat academisation.

Ian led the big Stop the War Coalition in Walsall from 2003. He was driven by a sense that injustice anywhere should be fought and he avidly supported Palestinian freedom. As one of those arrested at last year’s protest

against the Israeli owned Elbit arms factory he played an important but unassuming role in bringing together a defence campaign.

He and his partner Helena were about to go on another journey to the West Bank to include a stay with a teacher active in the recent month long strike there.

To lose Ian when he still had so much more to do is very hard. We will miss him enormously. Our thoughts are especially with Helena and daughter Hannah. He lives on with us in all that is to come.

Martin Lynch, Doug Morgan and Simon O’Hara



## DOCK WORKERS

# Dockers in Scotland sink bosses' attack

by RAYMIE KIERNAN

**DOCKERS HAVE** forced bosses at Grangemouth docks in Scotland to back down from imposing new working conditions. The Unite union suspended a two-week strike for new talks last Saturday.

Strikers acted quickly last Thursday to set up a second picket after container trucks began using a new road to exit the port.

They described the move as a “game changer”. All of a sudden Scotland’s biggest fuel terminal was trapped behind a picket line, and tanker drivers refused to cross it.

## Students

The pressure on bosses became too much. Rumours of petrol shortages spread as Scotland’s second biggest fuel terminal was already behind another picket at a different gate.

Only one other terminal near Glasgow could get fuel out and was running out fast.

Docker Winston told Socialist Worker, “Forth Ports were telling people that just 50 percent of us would strike and it would all be over soon.”

“But every single one of us



WORKERS CHEER tanker drivers after lifting the picket line

PICTURE: SOCIALIST WORKER

walked out.

“We’ve shown they can’t do anything without us—after just four days they’ve buckled.”

The Grangemouth strike showed bosses can be beaten back.

Forth Ports wanted to impose new shift patterns that would make dockers work every other weekend.

But the dockers were solid

and showed imposition can be beaten.

Unite announced that fresh talks are to take place from Monday.

Some workers questioned whether it was a good strategy to suspend the strike.

But there’s no denying that workers gave bosses a bloody nose.

One source close to the talks told Socialist Worker,

“What happened with Ineos and Unite in 2013 was a blow.

“But the Grangemouth dockers and tanker drivers have shown that it wasn’t a fatal blow” (see page 5).

Bosses may renew their attack—but their retreat has shown how unions can work together to beat them back.

●More on socialistworker.co.uk

## HILLSBOROUGH

# Police ‘lacked direction’

**POLICE OFFICERS** lacked direction during the Hillsborough disaster, an inquest jury has heard.

Some 96 Liverpool fans died as a result of a crush at the Sheffield stadium in April 1989. Coroner Sir John Goldring last week summed up evidence given by police officers who were on the pitch after the crush.

He claimed police constable Brian Hucklestep said he received “no

direction from senior police officers once he went onto the pitch”.

Police formed a cordon across the pitch as fans lay injured. Inspector Brian Wallace said fans were screaming, “What are you doing? Get over there and help.” Wallace accepted the cordon seemed “ridiculous and very frustrating”.

Sadie Robinson

●For a longer report go to socialistworker.co.uk

## HOUSING

A LAMBETH council cabinet meeting descended into chaos on Monday as it debated whether to demolish the south London borough’s Cressingham Gardens estate.

There were cries of “Liars!” as Labour councillors tried to justify

their plan. Resident Gerlinde Gniwosch said, “Who is accountable here? There are blatant lies in your report.”

People chanted, “Shame on you!” after councillors confirmed demolition.

●For more information on the campaign go to bit.ly/1RwLtDf

## MUSEUM WORKERS

# Fresh strikes in pay battle

**WORKERS AT** the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh are escalating their long-running pay fight with six weekend strikes.

The PCS union members have been in dispute for more than three years after bosses withdrew weekend working

allowances for new staff.

They have struck a number of times and are still determined to win.

Starting at Easter, they will strike over six consecutive weekends, running over the Scottish election period.

Steve West

## UNITE UNION

# Union head backs Trident

**UNITE UNION** defence workers met in Preston on Monday.

Unite head Len McCluskey said the union “will defend every last job in the defence industry”. He said, “This union will never support any policy which throws our members on the scrapheap.”

McCluskey argued against scrapping Trident. He called for “a Britain-first

manufacturing procurement policy,” with more spent on defence and less going to foreign firms.

McCluskey stressed that the main target was the Tories—not anti-Trident Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn.

But it’s a myth that Trident safeguards jobs. Backing the imperialist war machine is a dead end for workers.

## INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY



Chris Stephenson (right) gained widespread support

# Turkish state retreats after deporting socialist activist

by CHARLIE KIMBER

**TURKISH** security forces attacked Kurdish people celebrating Newroz (New Year) last week.

In Adana, Batman and Istanbul riot police attacked peaceful crowds. This is just the latest example of the accelerating repression of Kurds.

The Turkish state was forced to retreat after deporting socialist activist Chris Stephenson.

They deported Chris after he went to court to support fellow-signatories to an Academics for Peace letter. It calls for

a peaceful settlement of the Kurdish question.

But within 24 hours of his deportation the Turkish authorities said he could return.

Chris, a lecturer at Istanbul’s Bilgi University, received widespread support. He told Socialist Worker, “This decision is a tribute to the campaigning of so many people.”

“Now we have to carry on. There are three academics—Esra Mungan, Kivanc Ersoy and Muzaffer Kaya—whose case I attended and who are still inside.”

●Sign the petition against the persecution of Academics for Peace at tinyurl.com/go5mg4m

## ANTI-RACISM

# Stop student’s deportation

**DOZENS RALLIED** outside the Home Office in London and Edinburgh against the deportation of Strathclyde University student Lord Apetsi on Monday.

Lord was detained on Saturday and was set to be deported to Ghana on Tuesday night. He has lived in Britain for nine years and has children here.

Strathclyde Students Association president Gary Paterson joined the London

protest. He told Socialist Worker the response had been “phenomenal”.

“Students were horrified to hear Lord was going to be taken out of his studies.”

Lord’s supporters say the decision to deport him is based on an admin error.

Tom Kay

●Write to immigration minister James Brokenshire at james.brokenshire.mp@parliament.uk or tweet him at @JBrokenshire using the hashtag #SaveLord.

## ANTI-FASCISM

# March to take on the Nazis

**THE RACIST** English Defence League (EDL) plans to march in Rotherham, South Yorkshire, this Saturday.

They are trying to capitalise on a child abuse scandal in the town.

But Rotherham Unite Against Fascism (UAF) is planning a protest. Phil Turner from Rotherham UAF said this would be “a mark of respect to Mushin Ahmed and his family”.

Two men were convicted of the murder of Mushin Ahmed earlier this year. He died in August last year after being called a “groomer” and viciously beaten.

Phil said, “Saturday’s planned demonstration is another attempt to demonise

Muslims and increase the risk of racist attacks.”

He added, “We say Muslims have every right to defend themselves and stand up for their families.”

“No more racist murders, justice for child sex exploitation victims—Nazis out of Rotherham.”

■AROUND 230 anti-fascists outnumbered 30 Nazis from the Scottish Defence League in Edinburgh last Sunday.

■ANTI-FASCISTS in Swansea were preparing to counter a “White Pride” march this Saturday.

●Go to Facebook event Stop the Nazi NF White Pride March in Swansea



# TEACHERS SLAM ACADEMY PLAN

by SADIE ROBINSON

**THE TORIES** want to force every school in England to become a privately-run academy—but the plan has sparked fierce resistance.

The shocking attack was unveiled last week. The Tories also want to stop parents being school governors and to get more unqualified teachers into schools.

It exposes the Tory lie that their school reforms are about increasing parental “choice” or improving standards.

Alasdair Smith is national secretary of the Anti Academies Alliance. He told Socialist Worker, “This is the destruction of state education. It’s hypocrisy.”

“First we were told academies were about choice. Then they were about standards and giving schools autonomy. Where’s the choice and autonomy now?”

Academies are funded by the state but privately-run. Converting schools into academies involves a huge shift of wealth, in terms of land, buildings and resources, from public to private hands.



NUT SIXTH form strikers march on the Department for Education last week

PICTURES: GUY SMALLMAN

And it means parents, democratically elected councillors and others have less say over children’s education.

Some 100,000 people signed a petition in under four days opposing the academies plan and demanding a public inquiry into academies.

Alasdair said the attack has unleashed a “wave of anger”.

“We’ve had 100,000 hits on our website in one day,” he said. “People understand that this has nothing to do with improving standards in education.”

“It’s about privatisation

and removing state control or parental influence in schools.”

Paul McGarr is a teacher and NUT rep in east London. He said the Tory plan will turn schools into “soulless exam factories”.

He added, “Lessons’ will become repackaged corporate

videos or online lessons. Unqualified teachers will supervise rows of stressed and bored students.”

NUT union branches have called a protest in London on Wednesday. Similar protests are set for Birmingham, Bournemouth, Coventry,

Derby, Lancaster, Luton, Newcastle and Nottingham.

The anger sparked by the Tory plan shows the potential to build a mass campaign to stop them in their tracks.

Paul said, “The government has declared open war on public education. It’s a war we have to fight and win.”

“A Saturday national demonstration to defend education in the summer term could put thousands of people on the streets. And we need to drive hard for national strikes next term as a key part of our campaign.”

Alasdair added, “The key is to move quickly. Outside London people can organise protests outside their local authority or town hall to say we want our councils involved in education.”

The NUT’s national conference this weekend has the chance to lay out a campaign of meetings, protests—and strikes—to beat the Tories. It must seize it.

Protest against Tories’ forced academies—Wed 23 Mar, 5pm, Westminster Cathedral, Victoria St, SW1P 1QW. More info [antiacademies.org.uk](http://antiacademies.org.uk) Sign the petition [bit.ly/1UCe8fy](http://bit.ly/1UCe8fy)

## Academies—bad for children, good for business

ACADEMIES ARE bad for education. Tory and Labour governments have sold them as a way of raising standards and helping the most disadvantaged children.

In reality they do the opposite.

Exclusion rates per school are over five times higher at academies than state-run schools. They take fewer children who receive free school meals.

They have the “freedom” to employ unqualified teachers on lower pay—meaning a worse education for children.

The Academies Commission found that academies use “covert selection” to improve their

results. Despite this it said results are not “markedly better” than other schools.

Half the schools in Britain’s biggest academy chain, the Academies Enterprise Trust (AET), were found by Ofsted to be failing in 2014.

### Badly

This year Ofsted said almost half of students at AET secondary schools are in schools that are “less than good”.

It added that poorer students do “particularly badly” in AET schools.

Academies are not about helping poorer children. They are about helping big business get its claws into the education

system—and funnelling more money from the public to fat cat bosses.

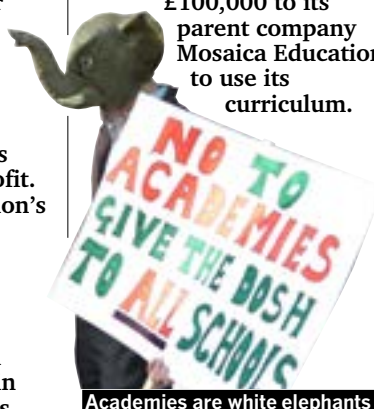
The Department for Education spent £8.3 billion on academies between 2010 and 2012.

It admitted last year that more academies are “likely to result in an increase in public spending”.

Academies are a bridge towards schools running openly for profit.

Research from London’s Institute of Education in 2014 said academy trusts and their firms were grabbing “very large sums of public money”. It highlighted “conflicts of interest” in a number of academies.

The AET paid nearly £500,000 into the private business interests of its trustees and executives over a three-year period. Another trust, the Aurora Academies Trust, paid £100,000 to its parent company Mosaica Education to use its curriculum.



Academies are white elephants

## Back rep Simon O’Hara

TEACHERS at Small Heath School in Birmingham were set to meet on Tuesday of this week to discuss further action to defend conditions and union rights.

The NUT union members have been striking repeatedly against school bosses.

They took part in several strikes against plans to turn the school into an academy.

Their action forced bosses to retreat—but management suspended NUT union rep Simon O’Hara.

Workers at Small Heath, and the NUT, see



NUT union rep Simon O’Hara

this as victimisation of an effective union rep.

It is a matter of national importance that a union activist has been suspended for >>>continued on page 16